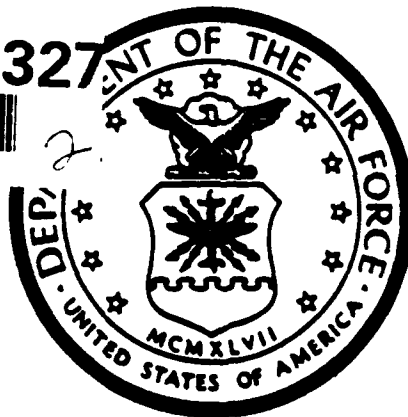
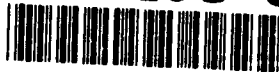


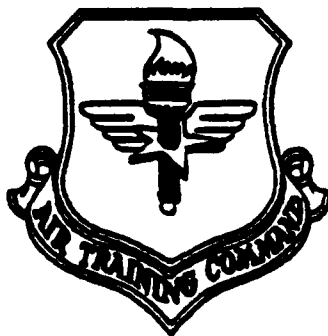
AD-A268 327



# PRELIMINARY FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT FOR THE CLOSURE OF CHANUTE AIR FORCE BASE

DTIC  
ELECTE  
AUG 19 1993  
S A D

January 1990



This document has been approved  
for public release and sale; its  
distribution is unlimited.

93-19181



13418

Department of the Air Force Base  
Headquarters, Air Training Command  
Randolph Air Force Base, Texas 78150-5001

93 8 18 001



**Air Force  
Environmental Planning Division  
(HQ USAF/CEVP)**

Room 5B269  
1260 Air Force Pentagon  
Washington, DC 20330-1260

16 JUL 93

*MEMORANDUM FOR DTIC (Acquisition)*

*(ATTN: Phil Mauby)*

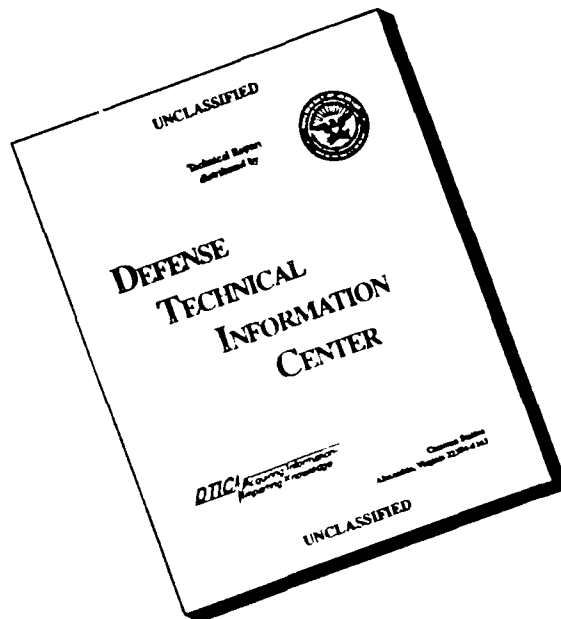
*SUBJ: Distribution of USAF Planning  
Documents Forwarded on 1 JUL 93*

*ALL the documents forwarded to  
your organization on the subject  
date should be considered*

*Approved for Public Release, Distribution  
is unlimited (Distribution statement A).*

*John Baker, Gm-14*  
Mr. Jack Baker  
Special Projects and Plans  
703-697-2928  
DSN 227-2928

# DISCLAIMER NOTICE



THIS DOCUMENT IS BEST QUALITY AVAILABLE. THE COPY FURNISHED TO DTIC CONTAINED A SIGNIFICANT NUMBER OF PAGES WHICH DO NOT REPRODUCE LEGIBLY.

COVER SHEET

Draft Environmental Impact Statement  
Closure of Chanute Air Force Base

Responsible Agency: United States Air Force

Action: In response to the recommendations of the Defense Secretary's Commission on Base Realignments and Closures to legislative requirements in the Base Closure and Realignment Act (Public Law 100-526). Chanute Air Force Base (AFB) is to be closed. The training courses offered at the 330th Technical Training Center now located at Chanute Air Force Base will be moved to several gaining bases. These bases are: Sheppard Air Force Base, Texas; Keesler Air Force Base, Mississippi; Lowry Air Force Base, Colorado; and Goodfellow Air Force Base, Texas.

Contact for Further Information: Ms. Catherine Hitchins  
HQ ATC/DEEV  
Randolph Air Force Base, Texas 78150-5001  
Phone: (512) 652-3240

Designation: Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS)

Abstract: This statement assesses the potential environmental impacts from the closure of Chanute Air Force Base, located in the Village of Rantoul, Illinois. Closure would significantly reduce on-base activity. The only significant impact resulting from closure would be the the reduction of wastewater flow to the Village of Rantoul Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant. The flow will be reduced by 50 percent.

Comments on the Draft EIS should be addressed to Ms. Catherine Hitchins at the address noted above. The comment period ends on \_\_\_\_\_. Comments must be received by \_\_\_\_\_. A public hearing will be held on \_\_\_\_\_. Notice of this hearing will appear in the local media. Ms. Hitchins can also be contacted for information on this meeting.

DTIC QUALITY INSPECTED 3

|                    |  |
|--------------------|--|
| Accession For      |  |
| NTIS CRA&I         | <input checked="checked" type="checkbox"/> |
| DTIC TAB           | <input type="checkbox"/>                   |
| Unannounced        | <input type="checkbox"/>                   |
| Justification      |  |
| By <i>per lti</i>  |  |
| Distribution /     |  |
| Availability Codes |  |
| Dist               | Avail and/or Special                       |
| A-1                |  |

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The action evaluated in this Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is the closure of Chanute Air Force Base, Illinois. The closure is the result of the recommendations of the Defense Secretary's Commission on Base Realignment and Closure, of legislative requirements in the Base Closure and Realignment Act (Public Law 100-526), and of U.S. Air Force plans to enhance mission readiness and national security. Primarily, the closure of Chanute Air Force Base will involve the transfer of courses to bases designated for realignment and the removal of equipment and personnel. No construction or demolition activities are planned as part of the action. Provisions of the Act preclude the examination of any alternative actions to closure. Consequently, this document will only examine alternate methods of carrying out the closure. Because the Act requires implementation of the closure/realignment, "no action" is not an alternative and is not specifically included. However, Chapter 3 presents the environmental conditions associated with the installation and its operations and will serve as the baseline against which the implementation impacts are judged.

This EIS describes conditions with all units currently operational in Chapter 3. Chapter 4 of this document assesses the impacts of the closure of the base (withdrawal of all units.) While the environmental impacts to Chanute Air Force Base caused by the departure of all units are within the scope of this EIS, the environmental impacts caused by the arrival of those units at the new locations are not part of this EIS. Those impacts will be analyzed in separate NEPA documents focusing on impacts and issues at the various receiving bases.

A second EIS will be prepared to cover the final disposition of the base property (including potential reuse). This process also involves laws and community issues quite different from the comparatively straightforward steps involved in closure, such as halting operations and removing equipment and personnel.

The following presents a summary of environmental impacts as a result of the closure of Chanute Air Force Base. Socioeconomic impacts (except for the regional wastewater treatment plant) are to be addressed in the second EIS.

- Climate: No Impact
- Topography: No Impact
- Geology and Minerals: Insignificant impact, with the only impacts resulting from reduced local sand and gravel mining.
- Paleontology: No Impact
- Soils: Due to the closure of the base, the soils will be moderately positively affected. There will be less grading and excavation as and less potential for the release of hazardous materials.

Installation Restoration Program (IRP): This program is independent of the closure action and will not be affected.

Waste Management: the waste management on the base will be insignificantly affected. The U.S. Air Force will coordinate with all state and federal authorities for the disposition of storage tanks, oil/water separators, and hazardous waste storage facilities. Solid waste production may increase temporarily during the closure action but will cease when the base closes, providing a beneficial impact to the Village of Rantoul's landfill longevity. Currently, the extent of asbestos and PCB's are not known. Surveys will be completed prior to the base closure.

Air Quality: By reducing the pollutant emissions from day-to-day operations of the base, the air quality of the base and the Village of Rantoul will be insignificantly affected.

Groundwater Resources: The base closure will eliminate the risk of hazardous materials spills or releases related to the military mission of the base. The closure will also reduce future construction that would create more impervious space on the aquifer recharge area that the base partially occupies.

Surface Waters: The creek and other bodies of water will receive positive impacts. The wastewater treatment plant will receive significant economic and physical impacts.

Biological Environment: The implementation of closure should provide positive impacts for the biological environment but these effects may be tempered by not implementing the Fish and Wildlife Management Plan.

Cultural Resources: No Impact

Noise Factors: No Impact

Zoning and Political Boundaries: The land uses on base could be regulated by the Village of Rantoul depending on the transfer of ownership.

Socioeconomic Factors: A detailed analysis that will discuss reuse alternatives for Chanute Air Force Base will be conducted in the second EIS.

Transportation: The additional vehicle or train traffic necessary for implementing closure of the base will be staggered over a period of years. The movement of each course will involve an increase in traffic over a shorter time period. To prevent impacts on the local roadways, the vehicle or train movements can be staggered.

**CHANUTE AIR FORCE BASE CLOSURE  
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

|  | <u>PAGE</u> |
|--|-------------|
| Cover Sheet.....   | 1           |
| Executive Summary.....   | 11          |
| List of Figures.....   | vii         |
| List Of Tables.....  | viii        |
| Acronyms and Abbreviations.....  | ix          |
| <br>1. DESCRIPTION OF AND NEED FOR THE ACTION .....                                | <br>1-1     |
| 1.0 Introduction.....  | 1-1         |
| 1.1 Scoping Process and Preplanning Analysis.....                                  | 1-2         |
| 1.1.1 Public Scoping Meeting.....  | 1-2         |
| 1.2 Related Environmental Studies.....   | 1-4         |
| 1.3 Issues Beyond the Scope of this EIS.....                                       | 1-4         |
| 1.4 Relevant Federal, State, and Local<br>Statutes, Regulations or Guidelines..... | <br>1-4     |
| <br>2. ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED INCLUDING THE ACTION.....                           | <br>2-1     |
| 2.0 Introduction.....  | 2-1         |
| 2.1 Alternatives Considered but Eliminated.....                                    | 2-1         |
| 2.2 Description of the Action.....   | 2-1         |
| <br>3. GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT AREA.....                                | <br>3-1     |
| 3.0 Installation History and Mission.....  | 3-1         |
| 3.1 General Description of the Project Area.....                                   | 3-1         |
| 3.1.1 Climate.....   | 3-1         |
| 3.1.2 Topography.....  | 3-4         |
| 3.1.3 Zoning and Political Boundaries.....   | 3-4         |
| 3.2 Physical Environmental.....  | 3-7         |
| 3.2.1 Geology and Minerals.....  | 3-7         |
| 3.2.2 Paleontology.....  | 3-8         |
| 3.2.3 Soils.....   | 3-8         |
| 3.3 Noise Factors.....   | 3-9         |
| 3.4 Air Quality.....   | 3-9         |
| 3.4.1 Regional Air Quality.....  | 3-9         |
| 3.4.2 Air Pollutant Emissions Sources.....   | 3-12        |

## TABLE OF CONTENTS (Continued)

|  | <u>PAGE</u> |
|--|-------------|
| 3.5 Water Resources.....   | 3-13        |
| 3.5.1 Groundwater.....   | 3-13        |
| 3.5.2 Surface Waters.....  | 3-16        |
| 3.5.3 Wastewater Discharge Permits.....                            | 3-17        |
| 3.6 Waste Management.....  | 3-17        |
| 3.6.1 Solid Waste.....   | 3-17        |
| 3.6.2 Hazardous Waste Management.....                              | 3-18        |
| 3.6.3 Hazardous Waste Storage.....                                 | 3-18        |
| 3.6.4 Resource Conservation and<br>Recovery Act (RCRA) Permit..... | 3-18        |
| 3.6.5 Wastewater Treatment Plant.....                              | 3-18        |
| 3.6.6 Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCB).....                         | 3-19        |
| 3.6.7 Asbestos.....  | 3-19        |
| 3.6.8 Underground Storage Tanks.....                               | 3-19        |
| 3.6.9 Other.....   | 3-20        |
| 3.7 Installation Restoration Program (IRP).....                    | 3-20        |
| 3.7.1 Introduction.....  | 3-20        |
| 3.7.2 Site Descriptions.....                                       | 3-21        |
| 3.8 Biological Environment.....                                    | 3-29        |
| 3.8.1 Wildlife Resources.....                                      | 3-29        |
| 3.8.2 Plant Resources.....   | 3-34        |
| 3.8.3 Threatened, Endangered, and Sensitive Species.....           | 3-35        |
| 3.9 Cultural Resources.....  | 3-35        |
| 3.9.1 Archaeological Resources.....                                | 3-35        |
| 3.9.2 Historic Resources.....                                      | 3-35        |
| 3.9.3 Visual and Aesthetic Values.....                             | 3-36        |
| 3.10 Transportation.....   | 3-36        |
| 3.11 Socioeconomic Factors.....                                    | 3-40        |
| <br>4.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES.....                            | <br>4-1     |
| 4.0 General Information.....                                       | 4-1         |
| 4.1 Project Area.....  | 4-1         |
| 4.1.1 Climate.....   | 4-1         |
| 4.1.2 Topography.....  | 4-1         |
| 4.1.3 Zoning and Political Boundaries.....                         | 4-1         |
| 4.2 Physical Environment.....                                      | 4-2         |
| 4.2.1 Geology and Minerals.....                                    | 4-2         |
| 4.2.2 Paleontology.....  | 4-2         |
| 4.2.3 Soils.....   | 4-2         |
| 4.3 Noise Factors.....   | 4-2         |
| 4.4 Air Quality.....   | 4-3         |
| 4.5 Water Resources.....   | 4-3         |
| 4.5.1 Groundwater.....   | 4-3         |
| 4.5.2 Surface Waters.....  | 4-4         |

## TABLE OF CONTENTS (Continued)

|   | <u>PAGE</u> |
|---|-------------|
| 4.6 Waste Management.....   | 4-4         |
| 4.6.1 Solid Waste.....  | 4-4         |
| 4.6.2 Hazardous Waste Storage Facility.....   | 4-4         |
| 4.6.3 Wastewater Treatment Plant.....   | 4-4         |
| 4.6.4 Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCB).....  | 4-7         |
| 4.6.5 Asbestos.....   | 4-7         |
| 4.6.6 Underground Storage Tanks.....  | 4-7         |
| 3.6.7 Other.....  | 4-7         |
| 4.7 Installation Restoration Program (IRP).....   | 4-7         |
| 4.8 Biological Environment.....   | 4-8         |
| 4.9 Cultural Resources.....   | 4-8         |
| 4.10 Transportation Impacts.....  | 4-9         |
| 4.11 Socioeconomic Factors.....   | 4-9         |
| 4.12 Relationship Between Short-Term Uses and Long-Term<br>Productivity of the Environment..... | 4-10        |
| 4.13 Irreversible or Irretrievable Commitments of Resources...                                  | 4-11        |
| 5. AGENCIES CONTACTED.....  | 5-1         |
| List Of Preparers   |             |
| References  |             |

APPENDIX A: Assumptions for Closure Implementation

Appendix B: Comments and responses to the draft EIS.

CHANUTE AIR FORCE BASE CLOSURE  
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ANALYSIS

LIST OF FIGURES

| <u>Figure</u> | <u>Title</u>  | <u>Page</u> |
|---------------|---|-------------|
| 3.1           | Chanute AFB Regional Location.....                                    | 3-2         |
| 3.2           | Chanute AFB Area Location.....  | 3-3         |
| 3.3           | Chanute AFB Installation Site Plan.....                               | 3-5         |
| 3.4           | Village of Rantoul, Illinois "Zoning Map -<br>Incorporated Area"..... | 3-6         |
| 3.5           | Hydrogeologic Cross Section of Champaign County.....                  | 3-15        |
| 3.6           | IRP Sites.....  | 3-23        |
| 3.7           | Ecological Map.....   | 3-32        |
| 3.8           | Locations of Receiving Bases.....                                     | 3-38        |

CHANUTE AIR FORCE BASE CLOSURE  
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ANALYSIS

LIST OF TABLES

| <u>Table</u> | <u>Title</u>   | <u>Page</u> |
|--------------|--|-------------|
| 2.1          | Summary of Impacts Due to Closure of Chanute AFB.....  | 2-3         |
| 3.1          | Summary of Monitored Air Quality in<br>Champaign County, Illinois.....                           | 3-10        |
| 3.2          | Summary of National and Illinois Ambient Air<br>Quality Standards.....                           | 3-11        |
| 3.3          | Estimated Annual Air Pollutant Emissions from<br>Chanute AFB and Champaign County, Illinois..... | 3-14        |
| 3.4          | IRP Sites.....   | 3-22        |
| 3.5          | Animals Common to Chanute AFB.....   | 3-31        |
| 3.6          | Fisheries, Wildlife Habitat.....   | 3-33        |
| 3.7          | Origin-Destination Logistics Matrix.....   | 3-37        |

## ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

|                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| AFB               | - Air Force Base   |
| AFESC             | - Air Force Engineering and Service Center                                   |
| ATC               | - Air Training Command   |
| CABG              | - Chanute Air Base Group   |
| CERCLA            | - Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act       |
| CEQ               | - Council on Environmental Quality   |
| CO                | - Colorado   |
| CTTC              | - Chanute Technical Training Center  |
| DEEV              | - Department of Engineering and Services, Environmental Engineering Division |
| DOD               | - Department of Defense  |
| EAC               | - President's Economic Adjustment Committee                                  |
| EIS               | - Environmental Impact Statement   |
| EPA               | - Environmental Protection Agency  |
| gpd               | - Gallons per day  |
| HQ                | - Headquarters   |
| I/I               | - Infiltration/Inflow  |
| IRP               | - Installation Restoration Program   |
| NEPA              | - National Environmental Policy Act  |
| NPDES             | - National Pollution Discharge Elimination System                            |
| Kg                | - Kilogram   |
| MCLS              | - maximum contaminant levels   |
| mg                | - milligram  |
| OEА               | - Office of Economic Adjustment  |
| MS                | - Mississippi  |
| ph                | - a measure of acidity or alkalinity   |
| PCB               | - Polychlorinated Biphenyls  |
| PM-10             | - Particulate matter <10 micrometers   |
| RAMP              | - Radon Assessment and Mitigation Program                                    |
| PPM               | - Parts per million  |
| RCRA              | - Resource Conservation and Recovery Act                                     |
| SLAMS             | - State/Local Air Monitoring Station   |
| SARA              | - Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act                               |
| SOV               | - Soil organic vapor   |
| USAF              | - United States Air Force  |
| UST               | - Underground Storage Tank   |
| WWTP              | - Wastewater Treatment Plant   |
| RA                | - Remedial Action  |
| TSP               | - Total Suspended Particulate  |
| TX                | - Texas  |
| ug/m <sup>3</sup> | - microgram per cubic meter  |

# **1. DESCRIPTION OF AND NEED FOR PROPOSED ACTION**

## **1.0 Introduction**

The Defense Secretary's Commission on Base Realignment and Closure ("Commission or CBRC") was chartered on 3 May 1988 by the Secretary of Defense to recommend military installations within the United States, its commonwealths, territories, and possessions for realignment and closure. Subsequently, the Base Closure and Realignment Act (Public Law 100-526, 24 October 1988) endorsed the Secretary's Commission and required the Secretary of Defense to implement its recommendations unless he rejected them in their entirety or the Congress passed (and the President signed) a Joint Resolution disapproving the Commission's recommendations.

The primary criteria used by the Commission for identifying candidate bases was the military value of the installation. However, cost savings were also considered, as were the current and projected plans and requirements for each military service. Lastly, the Commission focused its review on military properties and their uses, not military units or organizational/ administrative issues.

On 29 December 1988, the Commission recommended the realignment and closure of 145 military installations. Of this number, 86 are to be closed fully, five are to be closed in part, and 54 will experience a change (either an increase or decrease) as units and activities are relocated.

On 8 January 1989, the Secretary of Defense approved those recommendations and announced that the Department of Defense would implement them. The Congress did not pass a Joint Resolution disapproving the recommendations within the time allotted by the Act.

Therefore, the Act now requires the Secretary of Defense, as a matter of law, to implement those closures and realignments. Implementation must be initiated by 30 September 1991, and must be completed no later than 30 September 1995. Thus, the decision has been made to close Chanute AFB.

The Base Closure and Realignment Act requires the implementing actions to conform to the provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), as implemented by the President's Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations. In addition, this EIS also follows Air Force Regulation (AFR) 19-2, which implements both NEPA and the CEQ regulations within the Air Force system. However, the Act also modified NEPA to the extent that the environmental analysis need not consider:

1. The need for closing or realigning a military installation selected for closure or realignment by the Commission;
2. the need for transferring functions to another military installation that has been selected as the receiving installation; or
3. alternative military installations to those selected.

#### 1.1 Scoping Process and Preplanning Analysis

To make the NEPA process more useful to decision-makers and the public, CEQ regulations require a scoping process. The objective of this process is to determine the scope of issues to be addressed and to identify significant issues related to the action.

On February 8, 1989, the Department of the Air Force published a Notice of Intent in the Federal Register to prepare the Environmental Impact Statement for the closure of Chanute AFB. Local notification of the public scoping meeting was achieved through T.V., radio, and newspapers within a 75- mile radius of the base.

On March 1, 1989, the United States Air Force conducted a public scoping meeting in the Rantoul Township High School Gymnasium. This meeting was held to solicit comments and identify concerns related to the impacts of the closure of Chanute AFB.

##### 1.1.1 Public Scoping Meeting

During the public scoping meeting, many issues related to the disposal and reuse of the base were raised. This document will address only those issues related to closure. Issues related to the disposal and reuse of the installation and facilities will be addressed in the second reuse EIS. Issues raised in the public scoping meeting and addressed in this document include the following:

- Physical and economic impacts on the regional wastewater facility
- Impacts of hazardous waste sites

- Costs of environmental mitigations
- Land use issues
- Surface water and groundwater impacts
- Removal and cleanup of buried fuel tanks
- Removal and disposal of asbestos hazards
- Removal and disposal of PCB's

Issues raised in the public scoping meeting to be addressed in the second EIS.

- Connection of Chanute to the Village electrical system
- Loss of jobs, population
- Large numbers of vacant homes, buildings
- Loss of revenue for the Village of Rantoul, including State and Federal aid
- Increased expenditures by the Village of Rantoul
- Drop in property values
- Loss of local business revenue
- Loss of school attendance
- Elimination of use of the Chanute AFB by military retirees, especially hospital facilities
- Personal distress, tension
- Diminished educational funding
- Reduction of non-profit social services

### 1.2 Related Environmental Studies

The potential environmental impacts that may occur at the receiving bases will be addressed in separate environmental assessments at those installations and are beyond the scope of this EIS. These environmental assessments include the following:

- Environmental Assessment for the Realignment of Goodfellow AFB, Texas.
- Environmental Assessment for the Realignment of Keesler AFB, Mississippi.
- Environmental Assessment for the Realignment of Lowry AFB, Colorado
- Environmental Assessment for the Realignment of Sheppard AFB, Texas.

### 1.3 Issues Beyond the Scope of the EIS

This EIS only addresses environmental impacts of the closure of Chanute AFB.

A second EIS will be prepared to cover the Air Force's proposed final disposition of the base property including community reuse [Federal Register 54, 6256 (February 8, 1989)]. A socioeconomic study will be conducted and included in the second EIS to discuss the effects on socioeconomic factors.

The Installation Restoration Program (IRP) is independent of closure and beyond the scope of this EIS. The IRP is only addressed to the extent that it is interrelated to closure actions and associated potential impacts.

### 1.4 Relevant Federal, State, and Local Statutes, Regulations or Guidelines

The following Federal and Air Force regulations relate to the proposed action:

#### Federal

- National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). Considers environmental factors through a systematic interdisciplinary approach.
- President's Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations. The agency that administers the NEPA process.

- Endangered Species Act of 1973. Conserves ecosystems for the use of endangered or threatened species.
- National Historic Preservation Act. Protects districts, buildings, sites and objectives significant to American History.
- Clean Water Act. Reduces water pollution and the discharge of toxic and waste materials into all waters.
- Clean Air Act. Reduces air pollution dangerous to public health, crops, livestock, and property.
- Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA/HSWA). Control of waste disposal and hazardous waste.
- Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA). Controls the application of pesticides to provide greater protection to humans and the environment.
- Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation and CERCLA (Superfund) Liability Act/SARA. Provides for liability, compensation, clean-up, and emergency response for hazardous substances released into the environment and the clean-up of inactive hazardous waste disposal sites.
- Toxic Substance Control Act (TSCA). To regulate commerce and protect human health and the environment by requiring testing and necessary use restrictions on certain chemical substances and for other purposes.
- Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs, Executive Order 12372. Provides opportunity for consultation by state and local governments of Federal financial assistance or direct Federal development.

#### Air Force

- Environmental Impact Analysis Process (EIAP) (AFR 19-2). Gives specific procedural requirements for Air Force implementation of the NEPA
- Pollution Abatement and Environmental Quality (AFR 19-1). States policies and assigns responsibilities for the development of an organized, integrated, multidisciplinary, environmental protection program to make sure the Air Force, at all levels of command, conducts its activities in a manner that protects and enhances environmental quality.

- Environmental Pollution Monitoring (AFR 19-7). Sets up environmental pollution monitoring program for Air Force installations.
- Interagency and Intergovernmental Coordination of Land, Facility, and Environmental Plans, Program, and Projects (AFR 19-9). Regulations requiring inter-governmental and inter-agency coordination.
- Conservation and Management of Natural Resources (AFR 126-1). This regulation gives policies, procedures and functional responsibilities for managing and conserving soil, water, forest, fish, wildlife, and outdoor recreation resources on Air Force Lands.
- Natural Resources Land Management (AFM 126-2). Program for development, improvement, maintenance, and conservation of the real property of DOD installations.

#### State

- Illinois Environmental Protection Act: Establish a unified state-wide program for environmental protection and cooperate fully with other states and with the United States in protecting the environment.
- Air Pollution Control (Title 35; Subtitle B; Chapter I; Parts 201-245: Protect and enhance air quality of the State of Illinois. Ensure compliance with ambient air quality standards. Regulate stationary sources and administer special programs.
- Land Pollution Control (Title 35; Subtitle G; Chapter I and II; Parts; 700-870): Enforce State hazardous waste control laws and regulations. Regulate the use, storage, transportation, treatment, and disposal of hazardous materials and waste.
- Public Water Supplies (Title 35; Subtitle F; Chapter 1 and II; Parts 601-654): Ensure the continuous operation and maintenance of public water supply facilities so that the water will be assuredly safe in quality, clean, adequate in quantity, and the satisfactory mineral characteristics for ordinary domestic consumption.
- Water Pollution Control (Title 35; Subtitle G; Chapter I; Parts 301, 312): Restore, maintain, and enhance the purity of the waters in the state of Illinois. Ensure that no contaminants are discharged into the waters without being given the degree of treatment of control necessary to prevent pollution.

- Illinois Endangered Species Protection Act - Conserve species of fish, wildlife, and plants facing extinction.

Local

- No local statutes or regulations pertain to the base closure process.

## 2. ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED INCLUDING THE ACTION

### 2.0 Introduction

This section describes the action, withdrawal of personnel, and closure of the base in sufficient detail to allow environmental impacts to be assessed. Provisions of the Base Closure and Realignment Act preclude the examination of any alternative actions to closure of the base. The Act requires implementation of the closure; therefore, the "No Action" alternative is not discussed. The only alternatives to be addressed will be alternative methods of carrying out the closure.

### 2.1 Alternative Considered but Eliminated

#### Quick Withdrawal and Closure of Chanute Air Force Base

During the public scoping meeting, a quick withdrawal of military personnel and closure of Chanute AFB was proposed. This alternative was eliminated from consideration as a result of the Defense Secretary's Commission on Base Realignment and Closure. A phased withdrawal and closure will lessen the impacts on the military personnel and the surrounding community.

Quick withdrawal and closure would not allow the receiving bases to complete necessary construction projects. Essentially, in a quick withdrawal, the technical training currently conducted at Chanute AFB would cease. Transferring the training courses requires extensive construction, alteration, and enhancement of facilities at the gaining bases requiring two to five years to complete. The Air Force cannot function efficiently in several areas if it must suffer a two-to-five-year gap in the essential technical training now conducted at Chanute AFB.

### 2.2 Description of the Action

The withdrawal of personnel and closure of Chanute AFB will be implemented by relocating the mission and related support activities of the Chanute Technical Training Center to existing technical training centers at Sheppard, Keesler, Lowry, and Goodfellow AFB's.

Sheppard AFB, Texas will receive 52 courses including aircraft engine, propulsion, maintenance, and air crew life support training. The first class will begin in 1990 and the realignment should be completed by 1994.

Keesler AFB, Mississippi, will receive 22 courses including avionics and weather equipment maintenance, weather satellite system, and photo-interpretation training. The first class will begin in 1990, and this realignment should be completed by 1992.

Lowry AFB, Colorado will receive 45 courses including missile support equipment maintenance, intercontinental ballistic missile maintenance officer, and cryogenic operations training. The first class will begin in 1990; the realignment should be completed in 1993.

Goodfellow AFB, Texas will receive 25 courses including fire fighting, fire truck operation and maintenance and fuel inspection training. The first class will begin in 1992 and the realignment should be completed in 1993.

This action will be a phased process. The process will be scheduled in accordance with the graduation dates for each training class. The Air Force will not move students from Chanute to the receiving bases. Students graduating from training classes at Chanute will transfer to their permanent assignments. After each "final" class graduation at Chanute, that particular course will be relocated to the receiving base. The next class of students will travel directly to the new base for training.

Civil Service employees at Chanute AFB will be eligible for listing with the Priority Placement Program within the Department of Defense. Personnel directly related to specific training courses will have the opportunity to move to the base acquiring the training course. Many military personnel at Chanute will be due for a permanent change of station when the base is scheduled for closure. At that time, military personnel will be transferred, and replacements will be assigned to the bases acquiring the training classes.

Several alternative methods (mode) exist for transporting USAF supplies equipment and personal belongings. These modes include truck, freight train, airplane, and barge. Usually trucks provide the most feasible means of transport. However, due to the nature and logistics of the relocation, the optimal mode may be a combination of vehicles. The exact mix would be based on cargo packaging, shipment schedules, and costs per unit. Using the assumptions given in Appendix A, it is assumed that approximately 7,875 tons of USAF supplies, equipment and personal belongings would be moved from Chanute AFB to the receiving bases: Lowry AFB, Colorado; Sheppard AFB, Texas; Goodfellow AFB, Texas; and Keesler AFB, Mississippi. Table 3.7 provides a summary of the possible alternative modes of transportation of equipment, supplies, and personal belongings. No specific mode or combination of modes is preferred at this time.

Table 2.1

Summary of Key Impacts Due to Base Closure

| <u>Closure</u>                                      |  |   |  |
|---|--|---|--|
| <u>Impact Area</u>                                  | <u>Implementation</u>                                  | <u>Post Closure</u>                                     | <u>Notes</u>   |
| Project Area:<br>Zoning and Political<br>Boundaries | No Impact  | Undetermined Impact                                     | The Closure of<br>the base could<br>allow the<br>Village of<br>Rantoul to<br>regulate future<br>land use on the<br>base.   |
| Chapman Courts                                      | No Impacts   | Continued maint-<br>enance to prevent<br>deterioration. |  |
| Water Resources:<br>Groundwater Resources           | No Impacts   | Possibly reduce<br>groundwater<br>withdrawal.           |  |
| Surface Water                                       | No Impacts   | Continued maint-<br>enance of Base<br>Recreation Lake.  |  |
| Waste Management:<br>Solid Waste                    | Minor increase in<br>waste stream in<br>landfill.      | Possible lengthened<br>landfill life span.              |  |
| Wastewater Treatment<br>Plant:                      | Impact increases<br>during period of<br>implementation | Significant Impact                                      | Will affect:<br>1) pumping<br>facilities<br>2) Clarifiers<br>and packed<br>towers<br>3) Piping<br>systems<br>4) Sludge<br>handling<br>facilities<br>5) O and M Staff |

### 3. GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT AREA

#### 3.0 Installation History and Mission

Chanute AFB, constructed in 1917 adjacent the Village of Rantoul, initially served as a training facility and storage depot for aircraft engines and paint. Mechanical, photographic, and communications training activities were transferred to Chanute in the early 1920's. In 1929, a technical training school for all Air Corps mechanics was established.

In 1938, appropriations were authorized to modernize the technical training facilities and expand the base to its present size of approximately 2,100 acres. The Air Corps Technical Training Command established its first headquarters at Chanute Field in 1941. During World War II, aircraft maintenance, weather observation, life support, and metallurgy training were conducted at the base.

Since World War II, military and technical training for aerospace weapon systems support personnel has been the primary mission of Chanute Air Force Base. In 1959, the installation was designated the Chanute Technical Training Center. The runways were closed for military operations in July 1971, resulting in Chanute's current designation as a non-flying training facility. The current host unit at Chanute AFB is the 330th Technical Training Wing.

#### 3.1 General Description of the Project Area

Chanute AFB is located in the Village of Rantoul, which is in Champaign County in east-central Illinois (see Figure 3.1.) The City of Champaign-Urbana is approximately 14 miles south of Chanute AFB (see Figure 3.2.)

##### 3.1.1 Climate

The Chanute AFB and the Rantoul community have a temperate continental climate with characteristics reflecting their geographical position in Illinois. This is an area of climatic transition between the northern and southern sectors of the State. This continental climate produces a wide range of temperatures from 100 degrees Fahrenheit in the summer to -25 degrees Fahrenheit in the winter.

The average annual precipitation is 36 inches. The greater monthly average precipitation occurs during the summer months of June (four inches) and July (five inches). The lowest monthly average precipitation occurs

Figure 3.1

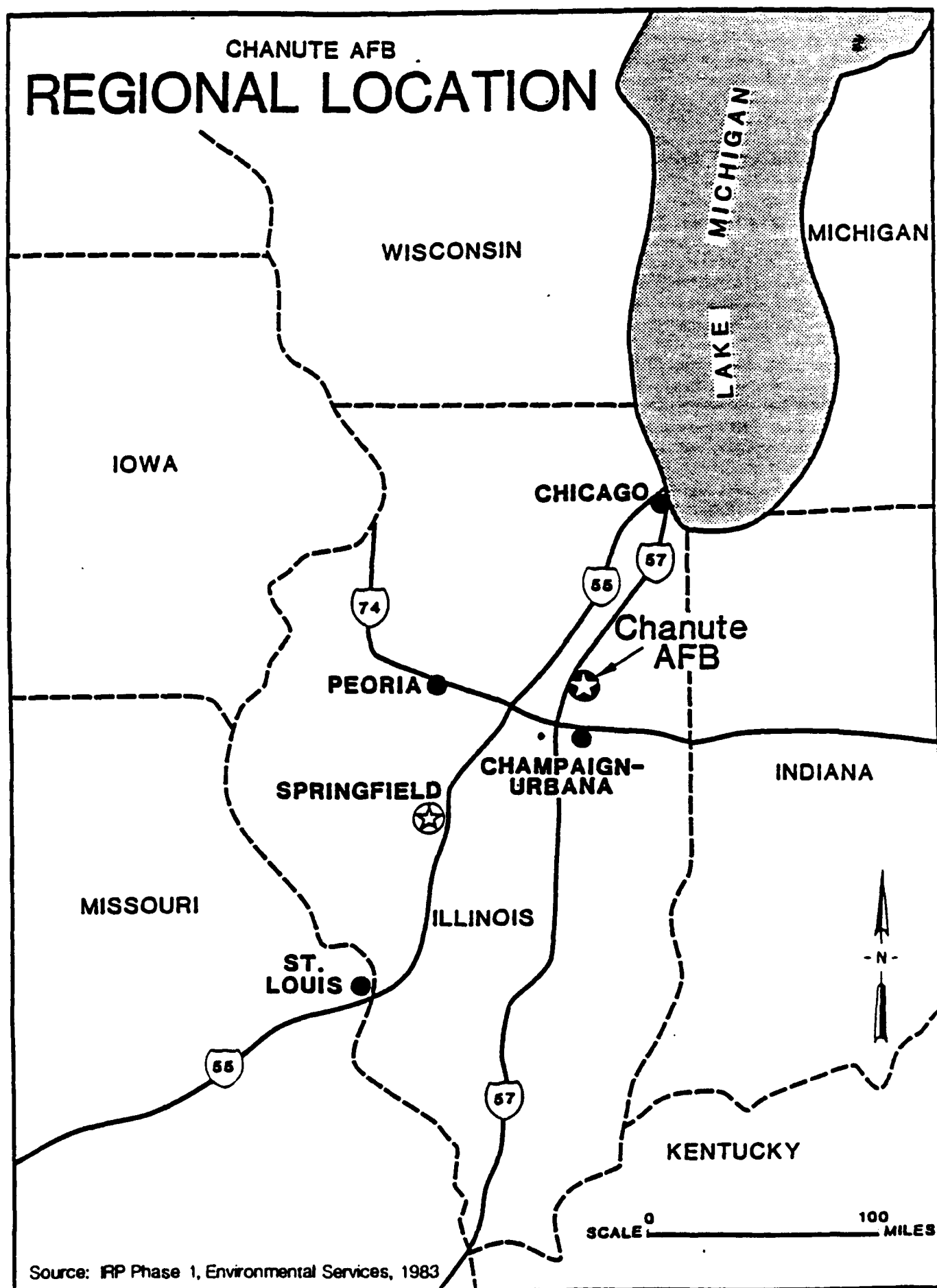
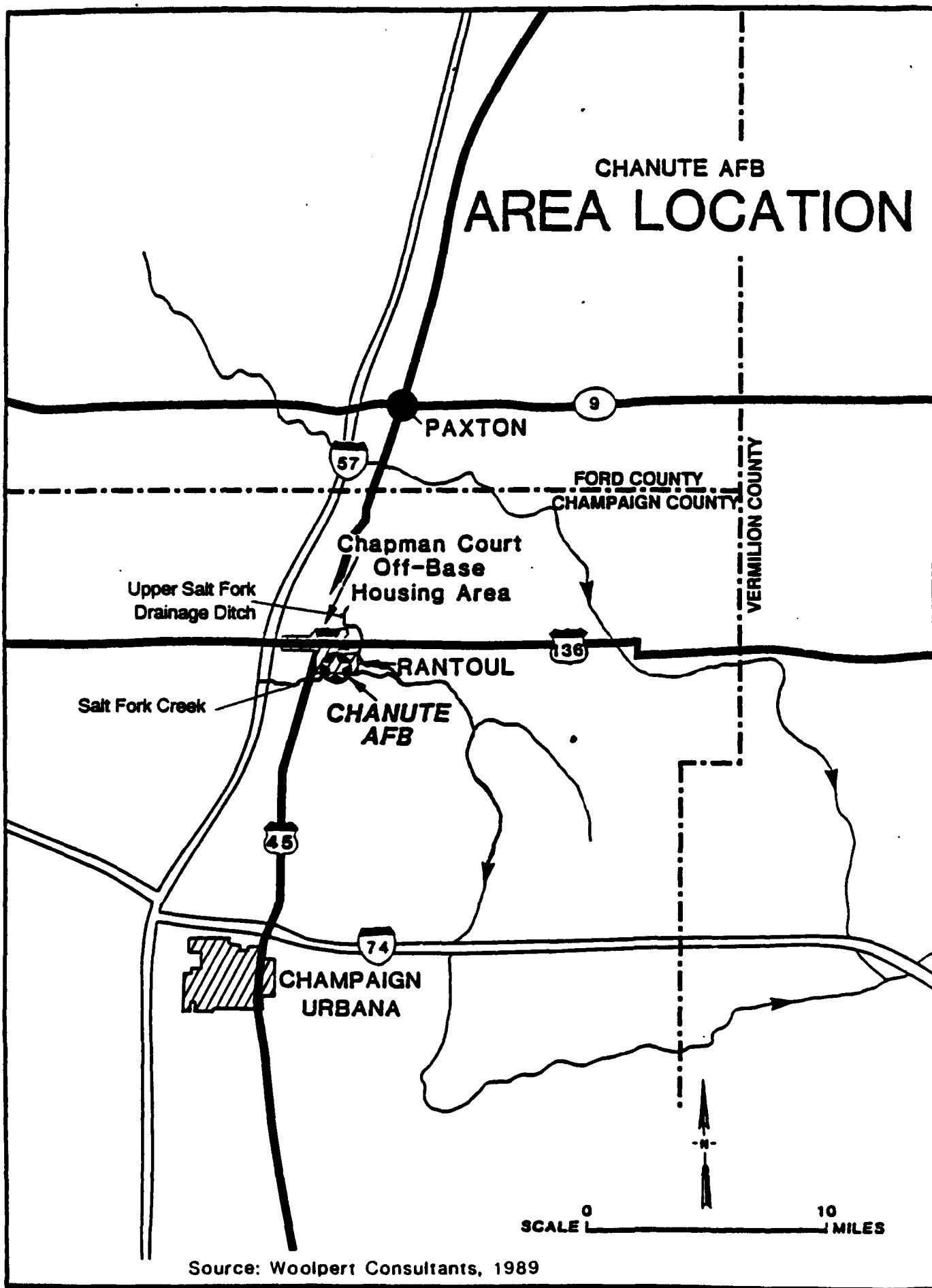


Figure 3.2



in the winter months of January and February when precipitation usually does not exceed two inches.

The prevailing wind comes from the southwest. Occasionally, during the winter months, the wind comes from the west or northwest. The average annual windspeed is approximately seven miles per hour. The average windspeed is usually greater during the winter and early spring, then subsides somewhat during the summer.

### 3.1.2 Topography

Chanute AFB is located in a relatively level area between two glacially-deposited moraines. The local topography and glacial influences are the products of stream development. The land surface slopes from 750 feet mean sea level (MSL) at the northwest corner of the base to an elevation of 710 feet MSL along Salt Fork Creek near the southeastern installation boundary (see Figure 3.3.)

### 3.1.3 Zoning and Political Boundaries

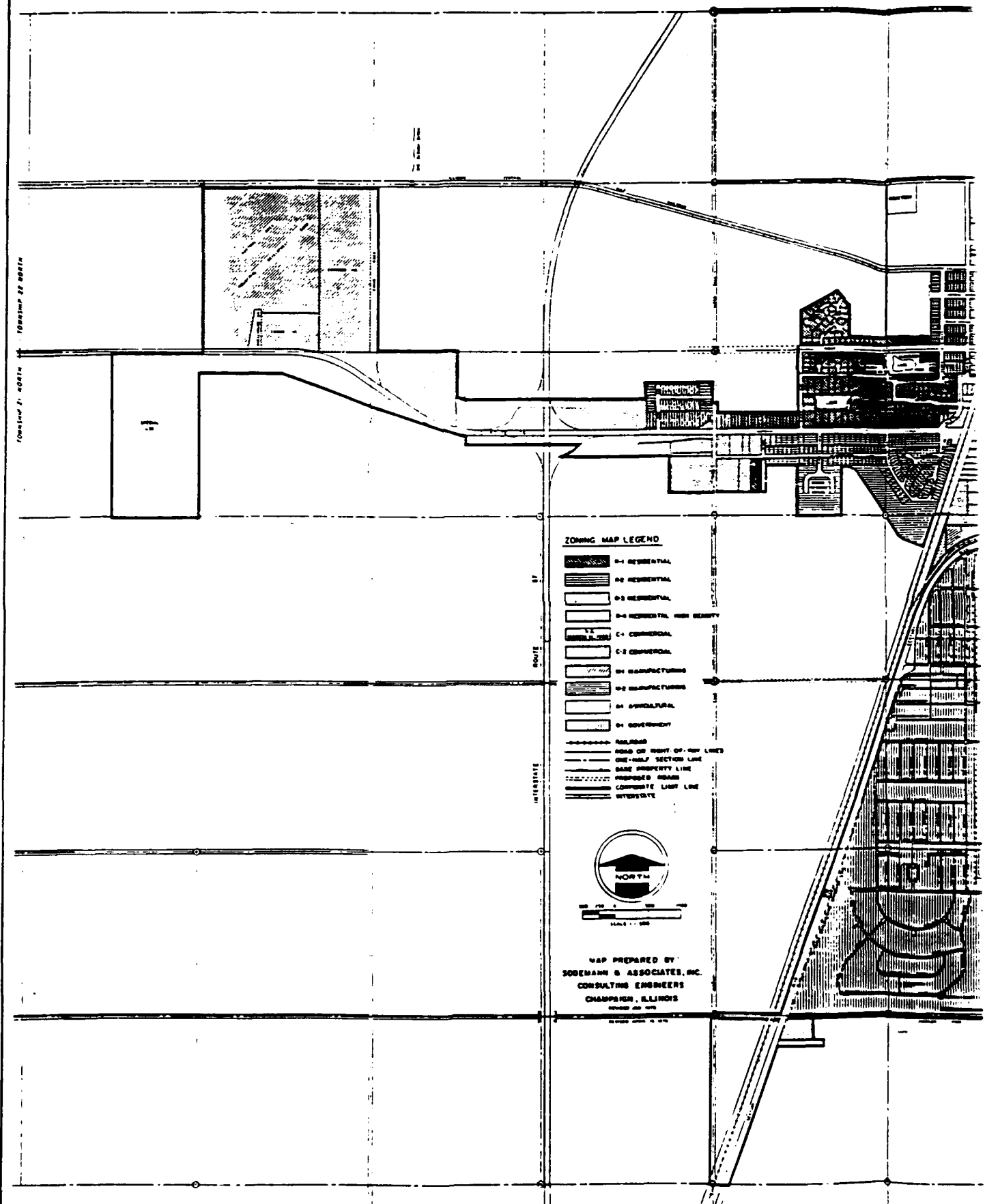
In the Village of Rantoul, as shown in Figure 3.4, there are a variety of zoning districts along the north base boundary, including M-1 (Manufacturing), C-2 (Commercial), R-2 (Residential), R-4 (Residential High Density), and A-1 (Agricultural). Chanute AFB is designated as G-1 (Government) on the zoning map. The zoning ordinance for the base provides for the unrestricted use of all property within the base's boundaries. The ordinance also prohibits any restrictions on the type of building construction on the base. No designated flood plains exist on Chanute AFB. A small portion of the southeast corner of the base, known as the 900 area, is not within the incorporated boundaries of the Village of Rantoul and is not zoned.

Chanute AFB has granted several easements for utility lines and roads that cross the installation. A sewer and water line easement was granted to an individual through the Chapman Court housing area, and the State of Illinois was granted easements for road construction. The Central Illinois Public Service Company owns a utility easement for a power transmission line along the northern border of the base and an outdoor sub-station. Eastern Illinois Telephone Company was granted easements for telephone cables along the west boundary of the base and in the Chapman Court housing area. Right of way easements were granted to an individual, a commercial enterprise, and the Village of Rantoul for road construction. Another individual was granted an easement for a drainage line.

**Source:** RFP Phase 1, Environmental Services, 1983



# VILLAGE OF RANTOUL, ILLINOIS - "ZONING"



## ZONING MAP LEGEND

- R-1 RESIDENTIAL
- R-2 RESIDENTIAL
- R-3 RESIDENTIAL
- R-4 RESIDENTIAL, HIGH DENSITY
- C-1 COMMERCIAL
- C-2 COMMERCIAL
- M-1 MANUFACTURING
- M-2 MANUFACTURING
- A-1 AGRICULTURAL
- G-1 GOVERNMENT
- RAILROAD
- ROAD OR RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE
- ONE-HALF SECTION LINE
- BASE PROPERTY LINE
- PROPOSED ROAD
- COMPOSITE LIMIT LINE
- INTERSTATE



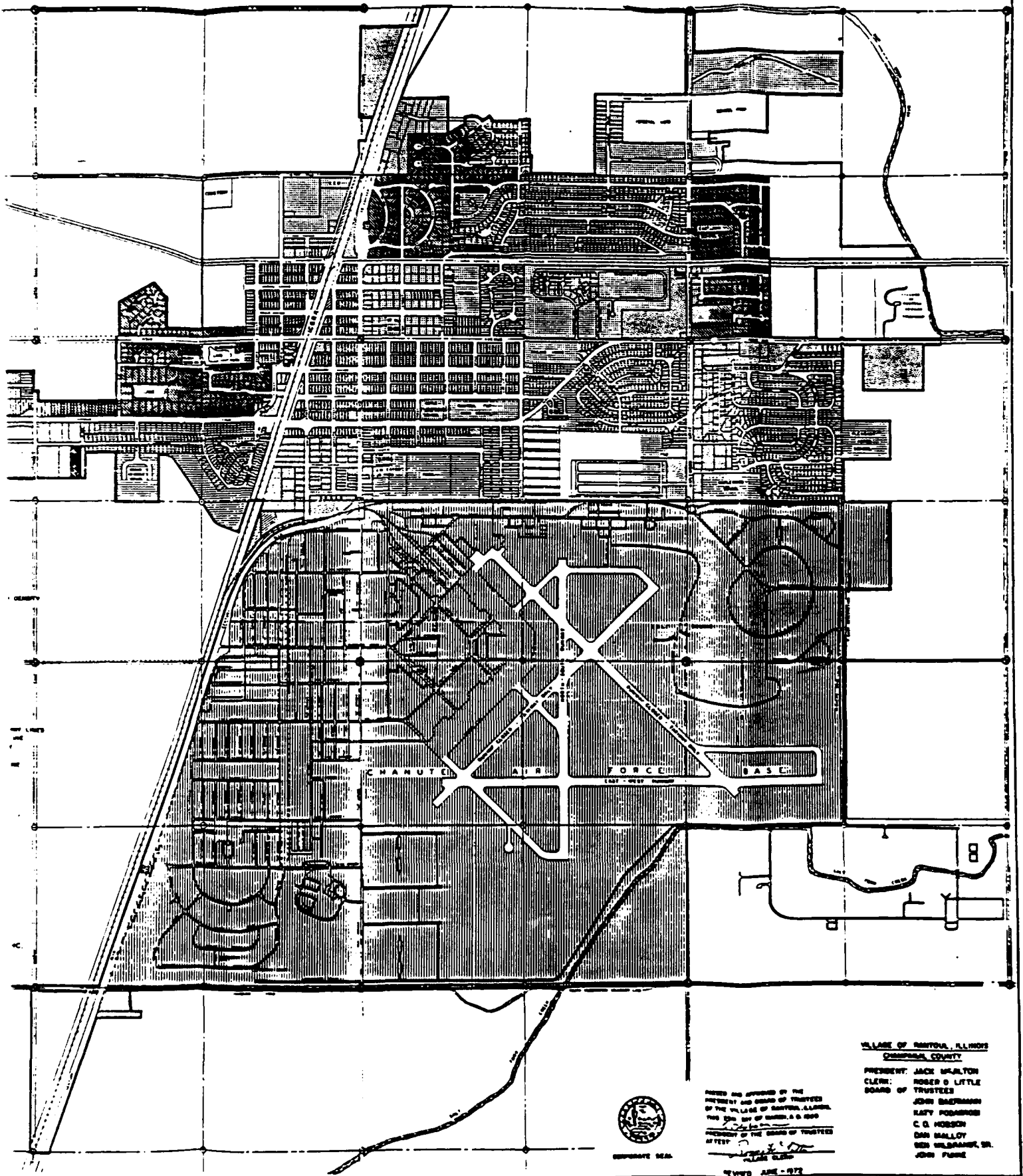
SCALE 1" = 100'

MAP PREPARED BY  
SOEMMANN & ASSOCIATES, INC.  
CONSULTING ENGINEERS  
CHAMPAIGN, ILLINOIS

REVISED JAN. 1970

Figure 3.4

ILLINOIS - "ZONING MAP - INCORPORATED AREA"



### Chapman Court

Chapman Court is an off-base housing annex located in the Village of Rantoul. This annex consists of 120 structures. Currently, only 79 units are available for occupancy. These units are being used to house unaccompanied airmen, that is enlisted personnel not families.

Five years ago, the Air Force stopped maintaining the Chapman Court area. The intention was to sell the development; however, the housing units were later needed for overflow from base housing. Minimal maintenance has been reinstituted to prevent further deterioration. Currently, none of the units are used for family housing.

## 3.2 Physical Environment

### 3.2.1 Geology and Minerals

The bedrock within the study area is highly dependent on erosion, both glacial and preglacial. The Pennsylvanian section is dominated by shales that contain interbedded sandstones and limestones. The Mississippian section is predominantly limestones and dolomites with interbedded shales. Depth to the bedrock is approximately 250 to 300 feet, depending on the surface and subsurface topography. The subsurface structure is controlled by the LaSalle Anticlinal Belt, which trends North-South. The axis of the anticline is located approximately two miles West of Chanute AFB. When this episode of deformation occurred, it not only folded the bedrock but also fractured it, increasing the permeability.

The bedrock is overlaid by three, distinct, mostly unconsolidated glacial deposits (Wisconsinan, Illionian, and Kansan Stages) referred to as till. The till stratigraphy is characterized by poorly-sorted material that contains clay, silt, sand, gravel, and cobbles. Lenticular deposits of well-sorted material deposited by glacial meltwater lie within these units. The three glacial deposits are bounded by paleosols (buried soils.) Described as silty with a high clay content, these distinctions are stratigraphic in nature and should not be considered as a hydrologic barrier. The till should be considered as one unit approximately 200 to 300 feet thick.

Some sand and gravel deposits in Champaign County are associated with the glacial end moraines scattered throughout the County. A large deposit of sand and gravel is located to the northeast and east of Rantoul. A few smaller deposits of sand and gravel are northwest of Rantoul. Several abandoned sand and gravel pits are in a large deposit, which is east and northeast of Rantoul. Currently, a sand and gravel extraction operation is located in the Chanute-Rantoul vicinity.

Salt Fork Creek, which runs through the southeast corner of the base, has several isolated bodies of pebbly sand. However, the Creek lacks sizable deposits of sand and gravel. No sizable deposits of sand and gravel are known to exist on Chanute AFB.

### 3.2.2 Paleontology

No natural outcrops that would expose paleontological resources exist on the base. Undiscovered materials may be in the bedrock below the base, but nothing is located near the surface. Fossils may be located in any imported rock used for construction such as riprap, but these fossils would not be locally derived.

### 3.2.3 Soils

The soils on the base have moderate water erosion potential and are not very susceptible to wind erosion. The soils are generally moderately permeable. The majority of the soils located in the southeast corner of the base are moderately permeable. Some of these soils have moderately slow permeability lower in their soil profile. The downward movement of water in these moderate to moderately slow soils ranges from 0.2 to 2.0 inches per hour.

The development of the base generally follows the soils that are most suited for development. The areas of open space also follow soils that are not generally suited for development. Because of improved construction practices, these land use patterns could vary in the future depending on base reuse.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture encourages the wise use of the Nation's prime farmland. Chanute AFB has approximately 100 acres of prime farmland south of the runways on the southeastern section of the base. These areas are used for agricultural purposes through the agricultural outlease program in operation at the base.

### 3.3 Noise Factors

In 1970, the north-south runway was closed, and in 1971, the east-west runway was closed. At that time, Chanute AFB became a non-flying training base. These runway closures eliminated the most significant noise impacts on Chanute AFB and the Village of Rantoul. Since those years, the noise impacts created by normal base operations have been minimal, not exceeding the noise impact that would be expected from a medium-sized city.

### 3.4 Air Quality

#### 3.4.1 Regional Air Quality

The Chanute AFB-Rantoul community is within the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency's East Central Illinois Intrastate Air Quality Control Region. Champaign County is designated as an attainment area for all pollutants (Illinois EPA, 1985.) This means that Champaign County air quality meets all legal requirements. A monitoring station is located in Champaign County in the City of Champaign. This monitoring station is part of the Illinois State/Local Air Monitoring Station (SLAMS) network and is located 15 miles south of Rantoul. This site monitors levels of sulfur dioxide and ozone. Until recently, a second monitoring station, which monitored total suspended particulates, was located in the City of Champaign. This monitoring station was removed in 1988, due to the switch by the United States Environmental Protection Agency to monitoring of particulate matter with a nominal diameter of less than 10 micrometers (PM-10.) The current national ambient air quality standards for particulate matter are only for PM-10, even though Illinois continues to have standards for total suspended particles. The sampling results for Champaign County are shown in Table 3.1. The summary of National and Illinois Ambient Air Quality Standards is shown in Table 3.2.

Once in 1987, total suspended particulate (TSP) values exceeded the primary standard in Champaign County when the value reached 394 micrograms per cubic meter ( $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ .) The TSP primary standard value was not exceeded in 1988. The secondary standard was exceeded once during 1987 but not during 1988. During 1988, the highest value was 134  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ . The trend over the previous six years shows that TSP values have remained stable.

Sources of TSPs include combustion of fossil fuels, wind, and mechanical erosion of soil. According to the

TABLE 3.1

## Summary of Monitored Air Quality in Champaign County, Illinois

Total Suspended Particulates  
(micrograms per cubic meter)

| East Central<br>Illinois Intrastate<br>Champaign County<br>Champaign, Ill. | Number of Samples                      |  | Highest Samples |     |     |     |
|--|--|--|-----------------|-----|-----|-----|
|  | >150 <sub>3</sub><br>ug/m <sup>3</sup> | >260 <sub>3</sub><br>ug/m <sup>3</sup> | 1               | 2   | 3   | 4   |
| 1988   | 0                                      | 0                                      | 134             | 123 | 117 | 114 |
| 1987   | 1                                      | 1                                      | 394             | 148 | 144 | 106 |

OZONE  
(parts per million)

| East Central<br>Illinois Intrastate<br>Champaign, County<br>Champaign, Ill. | Number of days<br>Greater than 0.12 ppm | Highest Samples |       |       |       |
|---|---|-----------------|-------|-------|-------|
|   |   | 1               | 2     | 3     | 4     |
| 1988  | 0                                       | 0.112           | 0.100 | 0.099 | 0.098 |
| 1987  | 0                                       | 0.123           | 0.099 | 0.094 | 0.091 |

Sulfur Dioxide  
(parts per million)

| East Central<br>Illinois Intrastate<br>Champaign County<br>Champaign, Ill. | Number of Samples |                 | Highest Samples   |       |                    |       |
|--|-------------------|-----------------|-------------------|-------|--------------------|-------|
|  | 3-hr.<br>>0.5     | 24-hr.<br>>0.14 | 3-hr. Avg.<br>1st | 2nd   | 24-hr. Avg.<br>1st | 2nd   |
| 1988   | 0                 | 0               | 0.056             | 0.056 | 0.027              | 0.026 |
| 1987   | 0                 | 0               | 0.056             | 0.054 | 0.028              | 0.028 |

Sources: 1987 Annual Air Quality Report IEPA, Illinois 1988 Annual Air Quality Report

TABLE 3.2

## Summary of National and Illinois Ambient Air Quality Standards

| POLLUTANT   | AVERAGING TIME                              | Standard (at 25°C and 760 mm Hg)  |   |
|---|---|---|---|
|   |   | PRIMARY   | SECONDARY   |
| Particulate Matter (TSP) <sup>1</sup>                       | Annual Geometric Mean<br>24-hour            | 75 ug/m <sup>3</sup><br>260 ug/m <sup>3</sup>                                 | 60 ug/m <sup>3</sup><br>150 ug/m <sup>3</sup>     |
| Particulate Matter, 2.5-10 micrometers (PM-10) <sup>2</sup> | Annual Arithmetic Mean<br>24-hour           | 50 ug/m <sup>3</sup><br>150 ug/m <sup>3</sup>                                 | Same as Primary<br>Same as Primary                |
| Sulfur Dioxide (SO <sub>2</sub> )                           | Annual Arithmetic Mean<br>24-hour<br>3-hour | 0.03 ppm (80 ug/m <sup>3</sup> )<br>0.14 ppm (365 ug/m <sup>3</sup> )<br>None | None<br>None<br>0.5 ppm (1300 ug/m <sup>3</sup> ) |
| Carbon Monoxide (CO)  | 8-hour<br>1-hour                            | 9 ppm (10 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )<br>35 ppm (40 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )               | Same as Primary<br>Same as Primary                |
| Ozone (O <sub>3</sub> )                                     | 1-hour/day                                  | 0.12 ppm (235 ug/m <sup>3</sup> )   | Same as Primary                                   |
| Nitrogen Dioxide (NO <sub>2</sub> )                         | Annual Arithmetic Mean                      | 0.053 ppm (100 ug/m <sup>3</sup> )  | Same as Primary                                   |
| Lead (Pb)   | Quarterly Arithmetic Mean                   | 1.5 ug/m <sup>3</sup>   | Same as Primary                                   |

<sup>1</sup> The TSP standard is only for Illinois, there is no national standard.

<sup>2</sup> The national standard for PM-10 replaced TSP on July 1, 1987; there is currently no state standard.

Note: All standards with averaging times of 24 hours or less are not to have more than one actual or expected exceedance each year.

Source: Illinois 1988 Annual Air Quality Report.

Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, the high values were partially attributed to the hot, dry climatic conditions that existed in 1987.

The ozone levels in Champaign County did not exceed the primary standard in 1987 or 1988. The highest levels of ozone were 0.123 parts per million (ppm) in 1987 and 0.112 ppm in 1988. Ozone is not directly emitted from pollution sources but is formed from emissions of nitrogen oxides and non-methane organic compounds in the presence of heat and sunlight.

Sulfur dioxide levels for Champaign County were lower than the primary and secondary standards for both 1987 and 1988. The highest level three-hour average samples were 0.056 ppm in 1987 and in 1988. The highest level 24-hour average samples were 0.028 ppm in 1987 and 0.0027 ppm in 1988. Trends over the previous six years show a stable sulfur dioxide level. The main source of sulfur dioxide, which is produced from combustion processes, is the burning of fossil fuels containing sulfur compounds.

#### **3.4.2 Air Pollutant Emissions Sources**

All existing facilities on the base that are regulated by Illinois EPA permits are in compliance with air quality standards, and the permits are current (Illinois EPA, 1989.)

The most significant air pollution emission sources at Chanute AFB are motor vehicles. The primary stationary emission sources include the fire training operation (Illinois EPA permit ID 019065), the test cell heating plant (Illinois EPA permit ID 029065AAC), the central heating plant, and the pathological incinerator that is located at the base hospital (Illinois EPA permit ID 019817AAC.)

The Illinois EPA permits for pollutant-emitting sources on the base will be renewed until they are no longer needed for base operations. Chanute AFB has an operating permit (I.D. No. 019817AAC) from the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency to operate the central heating plant with an electrostatic precipitator. This permit expires on December 17, 1989. Reapplication for renewal of the permit has been submitted to the Illinois EPA.

In addition to the Illinois EPA permitted sources and motor vehicles, natural gas domestic heaters in base housing units, No. 2 fuel oil heated buildings, AGE school engines, and the base gas stations emit pollutants. The estimated emission for base sources and the estimated emission for Champaign County is shown in Table 3.3.

### 3.5 Water Resources

#### 3.5.1 Groundwater

Four hydrogeologic units underly the base (see Figure 3.5.) The Wisconsinan aquifer (upper glacial deposit) is approximately 70-feet thick. The base lies within the recharge area of this aquifer. Groundwater exists within 10 feet of the ground surface. The groundwater in the upper part of the aquifer flows toward Salt Fork Creek. Water yields for the Wisconsinan aquifer range from three to 60 gallons per minute (gpm). This aquifer is not used by the Village of Rantoul or Chanute AFB as a source of drinking water.

The Illinoian aquifer occurs at approximately 70 feet in depth. The general direction of groundwater flow is south. Well yields from the aquifer can be up to 800 gpm's in the thicker sand and gravel sections.

The Kansan aquifer occurs at approximately 200 feet below land surface and is composed of approximately 60 feet of sand. The direction of groundwater flow in the Kansan aquifer is south. Wells tapping the Kansan aquifer may yield up to 3,500 gpm's. During high volume pumping periods, the water levels in the Kansan and Illinoian aquifer wells stabilize at approximately the same elevation. This indicates some hydraulic connection between the two aquifers.

The bedrock aquifer consists of fractured sedimentary rocks containing highly mineralized water. Due to its low yield and poor water quality, the bedrock aquifer is not considered a reliable water source.

Nine deep wells drilled into the lower glacial deposits of the Kansan aquifer supply the base with water. Seven of the base's wells are located in the northwest section of the base. Four of these wells were drilled along the northern installation boundary. Two wells are located in the southeast section of the base.

Table 3.3

Estimated Annual Air Pollutant Emissions  
Chanute AFB and Champaign County

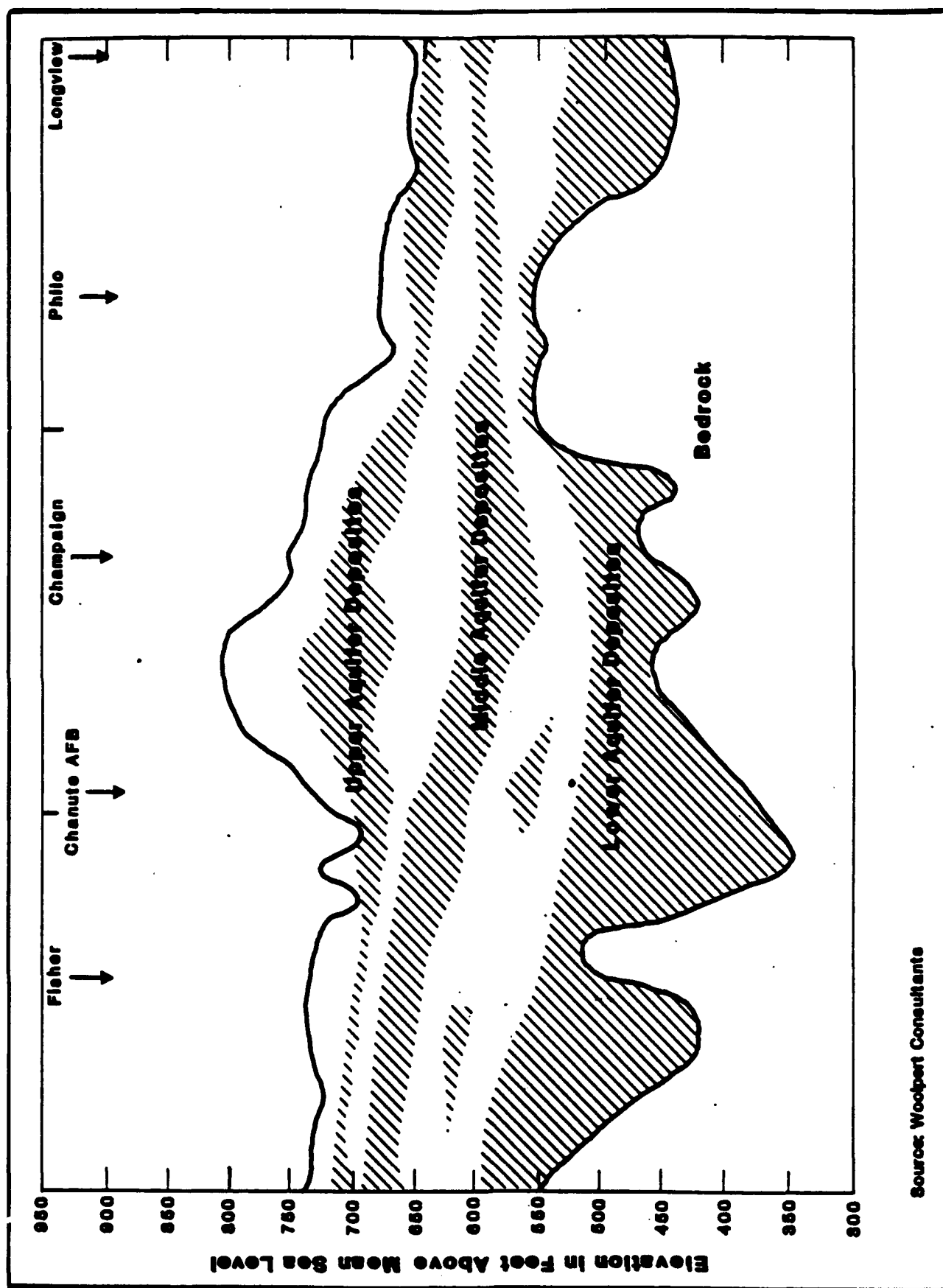
| Pollutant                    | Annual Regional<br>Emissions,<br>Champaign County<br>(Tons/Year) <sup>2</sup> | Estimated Annual<br>Pollutant Emissions,<br>Chanute AFB <sup>3</sup> Emissions<br>(Tons/Year) |
|------------------------------|---|---|
| Carbon monoxide <sup>1</sup> | 392   | 398   |
| Hydrocarbons                 | 2,193   | 424   |
| Nitrogen Oxides              | 2,578   | 97  |
| Sulfur Oxides                | 4,412   | 10  |
| Particulates                 | 1,657   | 102   |

<sup>1</sup> - Point sources. Because Champaign County is an attainment area, emissions from mobile sources (vehicles) are not estimated.

<sup>2</sup> - Illinois EPA, Division of Air Pollution Control (County estimates does not include Chanute AFB estimates).

<sup>3</sup> - Chanute AFB, Base Civil Engineering.

Figure 3.5



Source: Woodport Consultants

The Kansan aquifer is also the Village of Rantoul's municipal water source.

Water is pumped from the wells at a total volume of approximately 2.3 million gallons per day (gpd). This figure is the average over a one-year period. The water is treated and stored in water towers that have a total capacity of 2.1 million gallons and then supplied through the base distribution system.

An analysis of the raw water samples taken from base water production wells shows no evidence of contamination in the aquifers used for water supply (Illinois EPA Division of Public Water Supplies, 1989.) The drinking water for the Village of Rantoul and Chanute AFB meets all State and Federal drinking water standards (Illinois EPA Division of Public Water Supplies, 1989.)

### 3.5.2 Surface Waters

The recreation lake, located in the southeast section of the base, has a surface area of approximately 20 acres and is used for fishing. The site of the recreation lake was originally a series of sewage lagoons constructed in 1969 and used until 1973 when the facility became obsolete. From 1978 to 1983, the lagoons were refilled and stocked with fish for recreational purposes. The present recreation lake was constructed in 1984 and was stocked with fish over a four-year period. During this process, the State District Biologist monitored the release of fish. The District Biologist's reports included data on fish population, pH, and total dissolved solids. A complete water analysis was conducted in September 1987. The lake level is maintained by pumping groundwater as needed.

Other surface waters on Chanute AFB include three golf course ponds that are located east of the base runways. Each pond has a surface area of two acres. In the past, these ponds were used for fishing, but several years ago this activity was discontinued because of the hazard posed by golfers.

Salt Fork Creek flows along the southern installation boundary and parallels Perimeter Road through the southeastern section of the base. Approximately 1.1 lineal miles of the creek are within installation boundaries. Salt Fork Creek receives a majority of the on-base drainage. Data from the IRP sampling showed

trace amounts of some volatile organic compounds and total dissolved solids. The oil and grease concentrations exceeded drinking water standards.

The Upper Salt Fork Drainage Ditch, a larger waterway into which Salt Fork Creek drains, flows along the north side of Rantoul then turns south approximately one mile east of the base. This drainage ditch is used for wastewater treatment plant effluent discharged by the Village of Rantoul. Chanute AFB stopped discharging into the Upper Salt Fork Drainage Ditch in late 1987 when the base was connected to the Village of Rantoul municipal Wastewater Treatment Plant (Illinois EPA Division of Public Water Supplies, 1989.)

### 3.5.3 Wastewater Discharge Permits

The Village of Rantoul's wastewater treatment plant was issued a National Pollution Discharge Elimination System Permit (NPDES) on February 21, 1985. The permit (No. IL0022128) was modified August 6, 1986, and expires March 1, 1990.

During the past year, no discharges of treated wastewater exceeded the Village of Rantoul's NPDES permit standards.

Chanute AFB was issued a NPDES permit (No. IL0027073) on September 12, 1983 to authorize discharges into the Upper Salt Fork Drainage Ditch. Chanute AFB has since discontinued the discharge and the permit has been canceled. The base's wastewater flow was transferred to the Rantoul Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant in November 1987.

The wastewater flow from Chanute AFB must meet local standards. If these standards are exceeded, the base would be required to meet federal pretreatment standards. The base is in compliance with the local standards (John Reale, Superintendent of Water and Wastewater, Village of Rantoul, personal communication, 1989.)

## 3.6 Waste Management

This section addresses the management of current hazardous and non-hazardous wastes at Chanute AFB.

### 3.6.1 Solid Waste

Solid non-hazardous waste produced by Chanute AFB is taken to the Village of Rantoul landfill. Total solid

waste production at the base is approximately 5,300 tons per year. The landfill has 6 to 7 years of capacity remaining if the current rate of fill is maintained.

Chanute AFB implements a recycling program. The Resource, Recovery, and Recycling Program (RRRP) recycles aluminum cans, paper, and scrap items, steel, and rubber.

### **3.6.2 Hazardous Waste Management**

In order to minimize future hazardous waste contamination, planning for spills or releases must be in accordance with the Air Force's "Guidance Manual for the Preparation of Spill Prevention and Response Plans" (AFESC, 1987). Chanute AFB has several plans that address hazardous materials. The purpose of the Spill Prevention and Response (CTTC Plan 705, 1988) is to prevent the discharge of polluting substances or to contain and control the discharges if they do occur and then to treat the site. The Management of Recoverable and Waste Liquid Petroleum Products, (CABG Plan 211, 1984) and the Management of Hazardous Waste (CTTC Plan 708, 1986) are documents that provide guidance for the proper management of hazardous waste.

### **3.6.3 Hazardous Waste Storage**

Chanute AFB operates a permitted Hazardous Waste Conforming Storage Facility. The base has a history of disposing of wastes in a timely manner that requires only minor clean-up efforts. The base also operates hazardous waste accumulation points that can accumulate hazardous wastes for up to 90 days before moving them to the conforming storage facility.

### **3.6.4 Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Permit**

Chanute operates its Hazardous Waste Storage Facility under an interim RCRA permit and has applied to the EPA for a finalized permit to store hazardous wastes.

### **3.6.5 Wastewater Treatment Plant**

Prior to the municipal connection, Chanute AFB operated a wastewater treatment plant for sanitary sewage. All sanitary, commercial, and industrial wastewater was discharged to and treated by this plant. The industrial wastes included paint-related material, petroleum-oil and

lubricants, corrosive materials, and fuel. All wastewater generated by Chanute AFB is now treated at the Village of Rantoul Wastewater Treatment Plant.

The wastewater treatment plant in the Village of Rantoul was built with Air Force support. The plant has a maximum capacity of eight million gallons of water per day (gpd). The average flow is 3.5 million gpd with occasional flows of 2.5 million gpd. The AFB, including the Chapman Court housing area, accounts for approximately one half of the total flow to the Municipal Treatment plant.

The Air Force contributed approximately 10.5 million dollars to the construction of the WWTP. The Air Force retains no part of ownership or control in return for its contribution. Rather, the Air Force receives the services of the WWTP at a reduced rate.

### 3.6.6 Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCB)

Currently, five active PCB (7500 ppm) transformers and two active PCB contaminated (50-500 ppm) transformers are on the base. There are 591 capacitors and transformers on base with unknown PCB content. A survey to test capacitors and transformers for PCB content was completed in November 1989. The results are expected in January 1990.

### 3.6.7 Asbestos

The extent of asbestos currently on the base is not known. The base is scheduled to be surveyed in 1990. The survey will include all buildings and Military Family Housing Units. The friable asbestos, asbestos particles capable of becoming airborne, must be assessed for health and environmental risks. When the risks are determined several options can be considered:

- Long-term monitoring of the materials conditions
- Enclosure within solid structures
- Encapsulation with sprayed-on coatings
- Removal of the material

### 3.6.8 Underground Storage Tanks

Currently, 77 known Underground Storage Tanks (USTs) exist on the base. A UST management plan will be developed. The plan will include a priority list for upgrading or replacing the USTs. All UST systems will be

tested for leaks prior to transfer of ownership. If a UST is leaking, it will be removed but not replaced. Where possible, any soil contamination caused by leaking USTs will be removed upon discovery. If the contamination is extensive enough for immediate removal, the site will be added to the IRP. Abandoned USTs, those no longer in service, are programmed for removal in conjunction with the IRP or other O&M Air Force programs.

### 3.6.9 Other

#### Oil/Water Separators

Seven oil/water separators exist on Chanute AFB. These separators will be closed or transferred to a new owner in compliance with all regulations.

#### Above-Ground Bulk Storage Tanks

Sixteen above-ground bulk storage tanks exist on Chanute.

#### Radon

The Air Force has mandated the Radon Assessment and Mitigation Program (RAMP) to determine radon levels in buildings on base. This program was developed to evaluate levels of radon exposure to military members and their dependents and to provide a means for mitigation if necessary. Several buildings, including housing units, have been surveyed, and the results have indicated that further surveys should be conducted. A year-long radon survey is planned.

## 3.7 Installation Restoration Program (IRP)

### 3.7.1 Introduction

In 1980, the United States Air Force (USAF) began implementing the Department of Defense (DOD) Installation Restoration Program (IRP). The IRP is designed to identify and fully evaluate suspected contamination associated with past hazardous waste disposal practices and to control hazards to human health and the environment resulting from past operations.

The Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) as amended by the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA) is the Federal Law implemented with the IRP.

Chanute AFB is not on the United States Environmental Protection Agency's National Priorities List.

Regulatory oversight is provided by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region V, by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, and by the Illinois Department of Public Health.

The first hazardous waste investigation activity under the IRP was conducted in 1983. A records search identified six potential disposal sites that required further study. A seventh site was subsequently added. From 1984 to 1986, an IRP investigation was conducted at the base to further assess potential contamination at the disposal sites. The findings of these preliminary site evaluations indicated that further remedial investigations and feasibility studies were required as part of the remedial program. A summary of the IRP sites is presented in Table 3.4. The IRP site locations are shown in Figure 3.6.

### 3.7.2 Site Descriptions

#### Landfill Site 1

##### History

Landfill Site 1 was used from the late 1930s until 1960. During this period, the landfill received garbage, paper, wood, metal, ashes, aircraft parts, empty pesticide containers, shop wastes, and construction/demolition debris. A major portion of the wastes generated on the base during this period was disposed at the Landfill Site 1. The wastes were deposited in an area fill method. The landfill depth is estimated to be approximately eight to 10 feet. The site occupies an area of approximately 19 acres and is located northwest of Salt Fork Creek. The material deposited in this landfill was routinely burned.

##### Previous Studies

During the IRP Phase II-Stage I investigations completed in 1986, three, shallow Wisconsin monitoring wells were installed and sampled. Groundwater sampling results indicated trace concentrations of phenolic compounds as well as oil and grease.

Further investigations were initiated at the site late in 1987. A geophysical survey was conducted to define

| Site Identification Number | Site Description                                | Location on Base | Approximate Size of Facility | Previous IRP Phase II Study |
|----------------------------|---|------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| LF-1                       | Landfill Site 1                                 | SE               | 19 acres                     | Yes                         |
| LF-2                       | Landfill Site 2                                 | SE               | 20 acres                     | Yes                         |
| LF-3                       | Landfill Site 3                                 | SE               | 20 acres                     | Yes                         |
| LF-4                       | Landfill Site 4                                 | SE               | 16 acres                     | Yes                         |
| WP-1                       | Building 932 Tank Sludge Disposal Pit           | SE               | 1 acre                       | Yes                         |
| FT-1                       | Fire Protection Training Area 1                 | SE               | 2 acres                      | Yes                         |
| FT-2                       | Fire Protection Training Area 2                 | SE               | 15 acres                     | Yes                         |
| LU-1                       | Building 349 Abandoned Tank 1                   | NW               | 3,000 gal (MOGAS)            | No                          |
| LU-1                       | Building 349 Abandoned Tank 2                   | NW               | 3,000 gal (MOGAS)            | No                          |
| LU-1                       | Building 349 Abandoned Tank 3                   | NW               | 4,000 gal (MOGAS)            | No                          |
| LU-1                       | Building 349 Abandoned Tank 4                   | NW               | 1,000 gal (No. 2 oil)        | No                          |
| LU-2                       | Building 51/POL Area Abandoned Tank 12          | NW               | 10,000 gal (Diesel)          | No                          |
| LU-2                       | Building 51/POL Area Abandoned Tank 13          | NW               | 10,000 gal (Diesel)          | No                          |
| LU-3                       | Building 2306 Abandoned Tank                    | NW               | 1,100 gal (No. 2 oil)        | No                          |
| LU-5                       | Building 937 Abandoned Tank                     | SE               | 2,000 gal (Slop)             | No                          |
| LU-6                       | Building 502 Abandoned Tank                     | NW               | 1,100 gal (No. 2 oil)        | No                          |
| LU-6                       | Building 503 Abandoned Tank                     | NW               | 1,100 gal est. (No. 2 oil)   | No                          |
| LU-7                       | Building 53 & 58/POL Area Abandoned Tank 4      | NW               | 25,000 gal (MOGAS)           | No                          |
| LU-7                       | Building 53 & 58/POL Area Abandoned Tank 5      | NW               | 25,000 gal (JP-4)            | No                          |
| LU-7                       | Building 53 & 58/POL Area Abandoned Tank 6 (2)  | NW               | 25,000 gal (JP-4)            | No                          |
| LU-7                       | Building 53 & 58/POL Area Abandoned Tank 9 (2)  | NW               | 11,600 gal (MOGAS)           | No                          |
| LU-7                       | Building 53 & 58/POL Area Abandoned Tank 10 (2) | NW               | 11,600 gal (MOGAS)           | No                          |
| LU-7                       | Building 53 & 58/POL Area Abandoned Tank 11 (2) | NW               | 11,600 gal (MOGAS)           | No                          |
| OT-1                       | Test Cell Abandoned Fuel Lines                  | SE               | 46 acres                     | No                          |

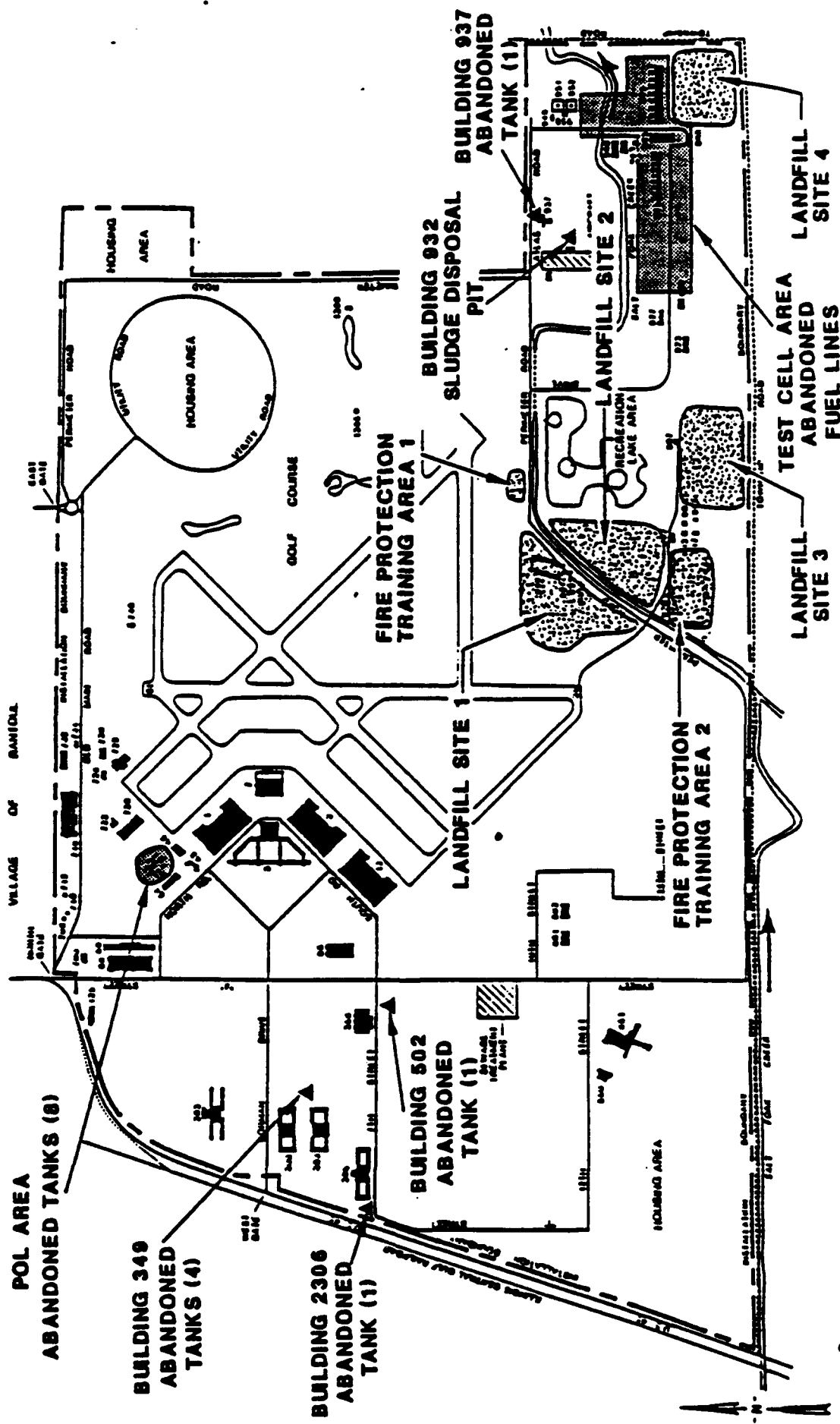
(1) Including fuel spill area.

(2) Only these three tanks out of the eight abandoned tanks in the POL investigation area will be removed due to the congested piping around active fuel tanks. That is, only Tanks 9, 10, and 11 in the LU-2 and LU-7 areas will be removed.

(3) Note: Tanks previously designated by the ATC as LU-4 and LU-8 were determined to have already been removed.

Source: RFP Remedial Investigation - Feasibility Study (Phase II - N/A) 1987

# IRP SITES



SOURCE: IRP PHASE I, ES 1983, AND PHASE IV-A, HMTG 1986

landfill boundaries and to identify areas containing large metallic objects. Four, shallow Wisconsin wells were also installed along the periphery of the site to monitor the groundwater quality of the uppermost waterbearing sediments. Since 1988, these wells have been sampled on a quarterly basis. In addition, the sediments and surface waters of Salt Fork Creek have been sampled for analysis. To date, analytical results from groundwater, surface water, and sediment sampling indicate concentrations of organic contaminants to be at or below detection limits. Aquifer tests were conducted to determine the hydraulic characteristics of the site.

#### Future Investigations

Future work at Landfill Site 1 will include installation and sampling of deeper monitoring wells, designed to investigate the groundwater quality of the underlying Illinoian aquifer. Confirmatory sampling of shallow, Wisconsin wells and sampling and analysis of the surficial soils forming the landfill cap will also be concluded in the near future. In addition, the landfill cap thickness will be determined at a number of locations on the site.

#### Landfill Site 2

##### History

Landfill No. 2 was used over a period of 15 years starting in the early 1950s. Wastes disposed of at the site included garbage, trash, shop residuals, and construction rubble. Depth to the bottom of the landfill is approximately eight to 10 feet. As was the case with Landfill Site 1, the area fill method and periodic burning were used at this site. The site is located on approximately 20 acres.

##### Previous Studies

The initial investigation at the site included the installation and sampling of one, shallow Wisconsin well. Surface water samples were also collected along adjoining Salt Fork Creek. Analytical results from this sampling indicated trace concentrations of an organic solvent in a surface water sample and trace concentrations of phenolic compounds in the Wisconsin well.

Subsequent work at the Landfill Site 2 included geophysical surveys for landfill boundary determination and aquifer tests to evaluate the hydraulic characteristics of the site. Groundwater quality of the uppermost waterbearing sediments was investigated through the installation and sampling of four, shallow Wisconsinan wells along the periphery of Landfill Site 2. As was the case in Landfill Site 1, analytical results from groundwater sampling indicated concentrations of organic contaminants at or below detection limits.

#### Future Investigations

Future work at Landfill Site 2 will include the installation of one monitoring well in the Illinoian aquifer, which immediately underlies the Wisconsinan deposits. In addition, the surficial soils forming the landfill cap will be sampled at selected locations.

#### Landfill Site 3

##### History

After the closure of Landfill Site 2, Site 3 was opened. Base garbage, refuse, shop waste, and rubble were deposited at the site during its operation. The operation of this 20-acre site was similar to that of Landfill Sites 1 and 2.

##### Previous Studies

During the initial investigation, three, shallow Wisconsinan monitoring wells were installed along the immediate periphery of Landfill Site 3. Trace amounts of phenolic and volatile compounds, as well as oil and grease, were found in the wells.

Late in 1987, geophysical surveys and aquifer pumping tests were conducted to characterize the site. Five additional Wisconsinan monitoring wells were installed along the periphery of the site. Results of quarterly sampling indicate low levels of organic contaminants, generally below federal maximum contaminant levels (mcls). In addition to the shallow wells, a deeper Illinoian well was installed immediately downgradient of the site. Analytical results from five sampling rounds show the concentration of organic compounds in the Illinoian aquifer to be generally below detection limits. Although traces of these compounds have been detected during individual sampling rounds, the presence of these compounds could not be confirmed by subsequent sampling.

### Future Investigations

Upcoming work at Landfill Site 3 will be limited to confirmatory sampling of the existing shallow and deep wells. In addition, the surficial soils forming the landfill cap will be sampled and landfill cap thickness will be determined at select locations.

### Landfill Site 4

#### History

Landfill Site 4, located in the southeast corner of the base, operated over a four-year period beginning in 1970. This 16-acre site received wastes that included garbage, refuse, shop residues, and construction/demolition debris. Filling at the site included trench and area fill methods. Although burning probably also took place, it occurred less frequently than in the older landfills.

#### Previous Studies

During the initial investigation, four, shallow Wisconsin wells were installed along the periphery of the site. Trace concentrations of oil, grease, and phenolic and volatile organic compounds were detected in these wells.

Additional work at Landfill Site 4 included the installation of four, shallow Wisconsin wells and an Illinoisian well, located downgradient of Landfill Site 4. As is the case with the other landfills, only trace concentrations of organic contaminants have been detected. Geophysical surveys and aquifer tests were also conducted to characterize the site.

### Future Investigations

Upcoming work at Landfill Site 4 will be limited to confirmatory sampling of the existing shallow and deep wells. In addition, the surficial soils forming the landfill cap will be sampled and landfill cap thickness will be determined at select locations.

### Building 932: Tank Sludge Disposal Pit

#### History

Until 1979, sludges from fuel tanks were disposed of in a diked pit located east of Building 932. Currently, the pit area is used to store drummed sludge prior to its removal by an off-base contractor.

### Previous Studies

During the initial investigation of the site, one Wisconsin well was installed and sampled. In addition, the sludge pit and a surface water sample were obtained for analysis. Trace concentrations of phenolic compounds and 50 mg/kg of lead were detected in the surface water and sludge samples, respectively. No contaminants were detected in the groundwater samples.

Further investigations concluded in late 1987, included soil organic vapor (SOV) geophysical surveys and aquifer tests. In addition, two shallow monitoring wells were installed in the immediate vicinity of the sludge pit. Surface water and sediment samples were collected from an intermittent stream adjoining the site and along Salt Fork Creek.

The SOV survey identified areas to the sludge pit that had elevated organic vapor concentrations. Although detected, compounds associated with hydrocarbons were found at relatively low concentrations in surface water and sediment samples from the intermittent stream and Salt Fork Creek. Quarterly sampling of the Wisconsin wells generally indicates an absence of contaminants in the uppermost waterbearing sediments.

### Future Investigation

The impact of the sludge disposal pit on the underlying Illinoian aquifer will be investigated in upcoming work of the site. One, deep Illinoian well will be installed and sampled at the site.

### Fire Training Area 1 (Inactive)

#### History

Fire Training Area 1 was active over a 15-year period beginning in the early 1950s. Old planes were moved off the runway and used for training activities. Waste fuels, paints, solvents, thinners, and other combustibles were reportedly burned at this site.

### Previous Studies

During the initial investigation, one, shallow Wisconsin monitoring well was installed and sampled. Trace concentrations of oil and grease were detected in the well.

The site investigation concluded in late 1987 included SOV and geophysical surveys as well as aquifer tests and exploratory soil borings. In addition, surface water and sediment samples were collected and shallow, and Wisconsin wells were installed and sampled.

The SOV survey identified two areas with indications of near-surface organic contamination. One of these areas was subsequently confirmed through analysis of the soils recovered from the exploratory boreholes. Analytical results from surface water samples collected in Salt Fork Creek indicate concentrations of organic compounds at or near detection limits and below federal maximum contaminant levels (mcls). In contrast, sediments from Salt Fork Creek do show significant concentrations of hydrocarbon-related compounds. The source of these compounds is uncertain because prior to December 1987 treated effluent was discharged immediately upstream of Fire Training Area 1. Groundwater samples from the shallow wells were generally at or near the detection limits of organic compounds.

#### Future Investigation

Some confirmatory sampling will be performed to support a risk assessment in conjunction with the preparation of a no-further-action decision document. If indicated, confirmatory sampling and analysis of groundwater, surface water, and sediment will be undertaken.

#### Fire Training Area 2 (Active)

Fire Training Area 2 has been active since 1965. During the first 15 years of its operation, waste oils, solvents, and hydraulic fluids were burned at the site along with JP-4. In recent years, JP-4 has been used predominantly.

#### Previous Studies

The initial investigation at Fire Training Area 2 included the installation and sampling of six, shallow Wisconsin monitoring wells. Surface water samples were also obtained from a holding lagoon on site. Three of the wells and the surface water sampling stations had detectable concentrations of volatile organic compounds.

Additional work at the site included an SOV survey, aquifer tests, exploratory borings, surface water and sediment sampling, and the installation of additional shallow wells.

The SOV survey identified a number of areas along the periphery of the site with elevated organic vapor levels. Surface water and sediment sampling results showed that adjoining Salt Fork Creek has been largely unaffected by the activities in the training area. Soils recovered from Fire Training Area 2 show moderate contamination by hydrocarbon-related compounds. The results of groundwater sampling indicate fair-to-moderate concentrations of organic compounds.

#### Future Investigation

The impact of the fire training activities on the deeper Illinoian aquifer will be investigated with the installation and sampling of an Illinoian aquifer monitoring well. In addition, the test pits will be excavated and sampled within the training area and the near-surface sediment of a collection ditch will be sampled for analysis. Existing shallow wells will also be sampled for confirmatory purposes.

#### Underground Storage Tanks and Abandoned Fuel Lines

Fifteen abandoned underground storage tanks and abandoned fuel lines were identified in previous studies. Current plans are to remove all but five of these tanks and all of the approximately 6,950 feet of abandoned pipe in the test cell area. The five tanks that cannot be removed at this time are commingled with active tanks (see Note 2, Table 3.4.)

In 1987 and 1988, eight more abandoned tanks were identified as well as approximately 6,100 additional feet of abandoned fuel line. These tanks and the abandoned fuel line will also be removed.

During tank and pipeline removal work, soils will be sampled and analyzed to verify that no contaminants, which might affect the underlying aquifers, remain in the soils.

### 3.8 Biological Environment

#### 3.8.1 Wildlife Resources

The Chanute AFB Fish and Wildlife Management Plan has been developed with the assistance of the United States Department of Interior, the Illinois Department of Conservation, the University of Illinois, and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Construction Engineering Research Laboratory.

Most wildlife species that are still found in the area have greatly reduced populations (Chanute AFB Fish and Wildlife Management Plan, 1984). The wildlife species that are found on Chanute AFB are listed in Table 3.5. The actual on-base occurrence of these animals is limited by available habitat. The base is on the edge of the Mississippi flyway for migratory waterfowl. This location may lead to an occasional seasonal appearance of migrating surface feeding ducks (Anas sp.), geese (Branta sp.), or swans (Cygnus sp.) The lack of suitable habitat for these species makes their presence intermittent during the migratory seasons. No known nesting sites for predatory birds exist on the base. Hawks and owls inhabit Champaign County but are not frequently observed on the base.

Every five years, the Fish and Wildlife Management Plan is revised and updated. The most recent update was in 1984. The purpose of this plan is to manage the fish and wildlife habitat in a manner that will maximize the public benefit from the land. The plan proposes improvements that encompass the concepts of protection, enhancement, alteration, and manipulation of wildlife habitat to realize the benefits that come from multiple use and sustained yield practices. The primary goals of this plan are to develop a diverse habitat for non-game species and to provide additional cover for game species.

The land and water resources for fish and wildlife management are shown in Figure 3.7 and described in Table 3.6. The water resources include golf course ponds constructed in the 1950s and 1960s. The base recreation lake was added in the mid-1980s. Prior to 1979, records were not kept on the stocking of fish in the golf course ponds. In 1979, the United States Fish and Wildlife Service stocked 40 Redear Sunfish in the ponds; however, these ponds have not been used for fishing in the past four years due to the hazards posed to those fishing by golfing activities. The Fish and Wildlife Management Plan does not propose any physical improvements to the golf course ponds.

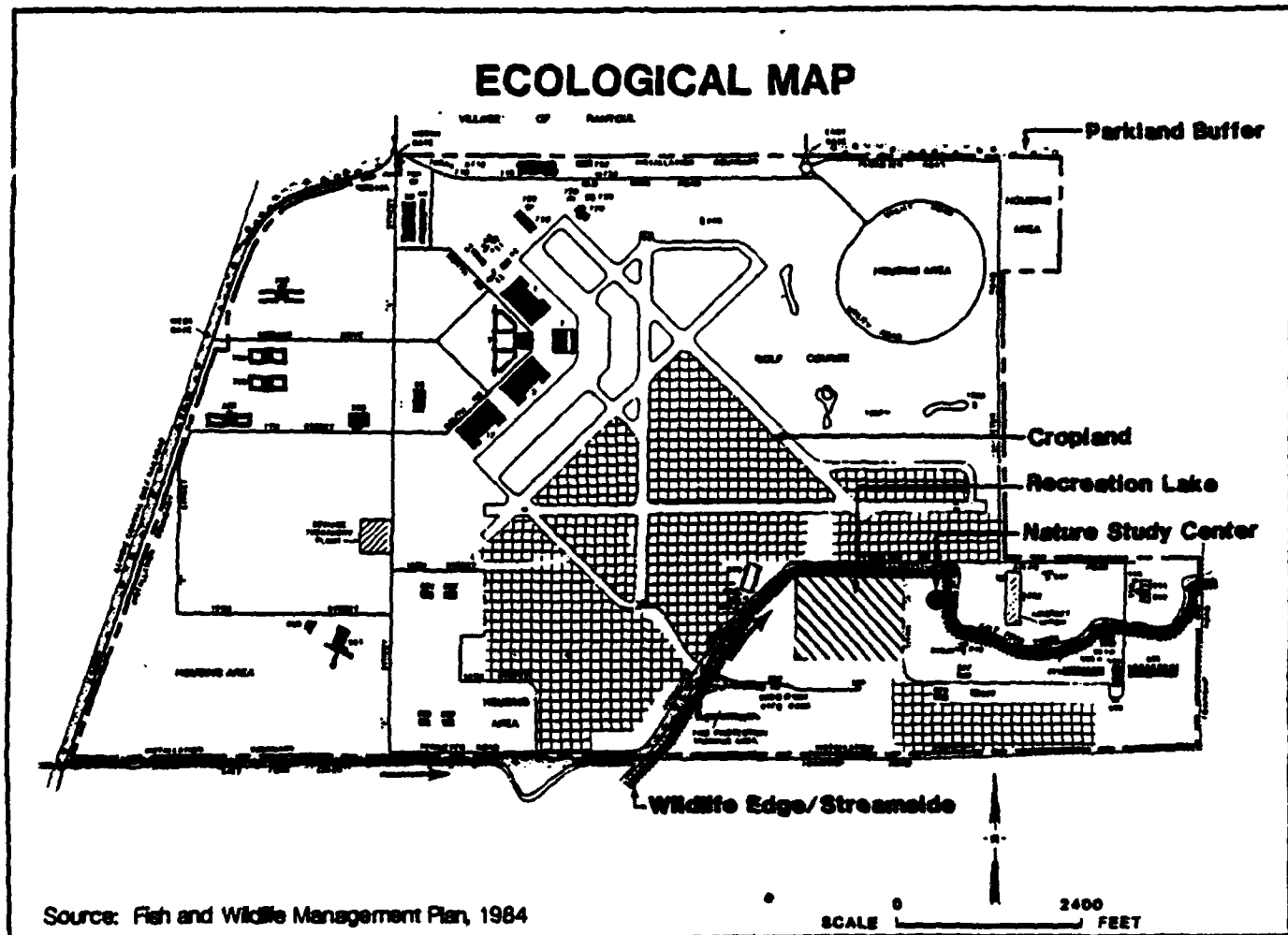
No hunting is permitted on Chanute AFB. Chanute AFB has issued one permit a year for trapping. This on-base permit is issued as a wildlife management control measure. Muskrat have been the most prevalent, but raccoon, beaver, mink, and red fox have been trapped over the years.

TABLE 3.5  
Chanute Air Force Base  
Animals Found on Chanute Air Force Base

| <u>Common Name</u> | <u>Scientific Name</u>       |
|--------------------|------------------------------|
| Songbirds          | various                      |
| Ringneck Pheasant  | <u>Phasianus colchicus</u>   |
| Water Fowl         | various                      |
| Squirrels          | <u>Sciurus spp.</u>          |
| Cottontail Rabbit  | <u>Sylvilagus virginiana</u> |
| Muskrat            | <u>Ondatra zibethicus</u>    |
| Beaver             | <u>Castor canadensis</u>     |
| Red Fox            | <u>Vulpes fulva</u>          |
| Mink               | <u>Mustela vison</u>         |
| Raccoon            | <u>Procyon lotor</u>         |
| Bass               | <u>Micropterus salmoides</u> |
| Channel Catfish    | <u>Ictalurus punctatus</u>   |
| Bluegill Sunfish   | <u>Lepomis macrochirus</u>   |
| Green Sunfish      | <u>Lepomis cyanellus</u>     |
| Redear Sunfish     | <u>Lepomis microlophus</u>   |
| Carp               | <u>Cyprinus carpio</u>       |

Source: Chanute AFB Fish and Wildlife Management Plan, 1984

Figure 3.7



#### LANDSCAPE TYPE

#### FUNCTIONS

**Parkland Buffer**



wind/snow belt

climate  
control/maintenance

**Wildlife Edge/Streamside**

ornamental  
wildlife cover  
streamside



wind/snow belt  
wild habitat  
wild habitat

cover  
food  
habitat

songbirds  
pheasant

**Nature Study Center**



education  
habitat

songbirds

**Recreation Lake**



habitat

fishing  
waterfowl  
recreation

**Cropland/Lease**



cash grain

food

pheasant

**TABLE 3.6**  
**Chanute Air Force Base**  
**Fisheries Habitat**

| <b>Fisheries Habitat<br/>(By Water Only)</b> | <b>Featured and<br/>Associated Species</b>             | <b>Acreage</b> |
|--|--|----------------|
| <b>Golf Course Ponds</b>                     |  |                |
| - East                                       | Redear Sunfish   | 2.0            |
| - Middle                                     | Redear Sunfish   | 2.0            |
| - West                                       | Redear Sunfish   | 2.0            |
| <b>Recreation Lake</b>                       | Largemouth Bass<br>Bluegill Sunfish<br>Channel Catfish | 20             |

**Wildlife Habitat**

| <b>Wildlife Habitat<br/>(By cover type)</b> | <b>Featured and<br/>Associated Species</b>      | <b>Acreage</b>         |
|---|---|------------------------|
| <b>Mixed Forest</b>                         | Songbirds, Squirrels                            | 12                     |
| <b>Agricultural Land</b>                    | Ringneck Pheasant<br>Cottontail Rabbit          | 311                    |
| <b>Grassland/Field</b>                      | Ringneck Pheasant<br>Cottontail Rabbit          | 560                    |
| <b>Streamside/Aquatic</b>                   | Cottontail Rabbit<br>Songbirds<br>Foraging Fish | 1.1 miles<br>of stream |

Source: Chanute AFB Fish and Wildlife Management, 1984

### 3.8.2 Plant Resources

No natural or undisturbed vegetative associations exist on Chanute AFB (Landscape Development Plan, 1985.) The vegetation is composed of ornamental species, agricultural products, and some native grasses and annuals derived from the prairie associations that once dominated the area surrounding the base. The region around the base is under intensive production of corn, soybeans, wheat, and hay.

Two base plans are responsible for the management of plant resources. The Landscape Development Plan, which has developed over the last 40 years of landscape planting, and the Cropland Management Plan, which provides Chanute AFB with agricultural land.

The original planting concept for the base was very simple. All streets, walks, and lawns were shaded with trees. Hedges and shrubs were used extensively to control and channel pedestrian movement. Foundation plantings were used to define visual interest and special use areas, and evergreens were used for screening purposes. The long-term effect of the tree planting has been a modification of the base's environment. Many of the shrubs are now gone or are in poor condition. The Landscape Development Plan found that plant replacement and maintenance over the last 15 years has been inadequate.

The Cropland Management Plan operates from two objectives: (1) financial benefits for the Government and the lessor and (2) maintenance of the leased land by the lessor.

The agricultural leased land is found in the central section of the base surrounding the runways; it encompasses approximately 311 acres. The leased areas are used for harvesting cash crops (corn and soybeans.) The soils affect the maximum yields for crops. On the leased land on the base, the maximum yields range from 129 to 160 bushels of corn and 44 to 51 bushels of soybeans. As specified by the Cropland Management Plan, the lease has to follow conservation practices acceptable to the United States Department of Agriculture, Soil Conservation Service. These practices include a corn-soybean rotation plan and tillage methods that provide a 32 percent ground cover after planting.

### 3.8.3 Threatened, Endangered and Sensitive Species

There is no record of federally endangered plants or animals on base nor is there known critical habitat for any of these species on base. The only federally listed species that would be found in Champaign County is the Indiana Bat, which requires a well developed riparian habitat. This habitat does not exist on base. (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, personal communications, 1989.) Only one state endangered species of plant or animal may use the available habitat on base. The Upland Sandpiper (Bartramia longicauda) prefers pastures and hayfields for resting during the months of April to September. No records of this species exist on base (Illinois Department of Conservation, Natural Heritage Program, 1989), but there have been sightings in the region. Recently, a nesting pair of Upland Sandpipers (Bartramia longicauda) were sighted approximately five miles south of Champaign-Urbana (Dr. Glenn Sanderson, Illinois Department of Natural History, personal communication, 1989.) The location is approximately 20 miles south of Chanute AFB.

The base has not had a formal survey performed to determine the presence of threatened or endangered species or habitat suitable for such species. The lack of suitable habitat makes their appearance on base unlikely. A formal survey is not required or indicated.

## 3.9 Cultural Resources

### 3.9.1 Archaeological Resources

Native American cultural sites are not known to exist on Chanute AFB. No other known prehistoric or historic archaeological sites exist on the base. Archaeologists with the Illinois Historic Preservation Office conducted an archaeological reconnaissance survey of the base in May 1987 and found no significant archaeological resources.

### 3.9.2 Historic Resources

Currently, no historic sites or districts exist on Chanute Air Force Base (Bill Callahan, Illinois Historic Preservation Office, personal communication, 1989.) The Illinois State Advisory Council on Historical Preservation has recommended that a program for inventory and assessment of historical resources at the base be initiated during 1988 so that results will be available by 1991.

Currently, a historic site survey is underway. The study began in October 1988 and should be completed in November 1989.

The considered buildings are concentrated in the Old Main Bay area. The area will be evaluated as a historic district in addition to the evaluation of individual buildings.

### **3.9.3 Visual and Aesthetic Values**

Chanute AFB is located in a region dominated by relatively flat, agricultural land. To provide a visual break, windbreaks, and shade, landscaping was performed.

This landscaping centered on the original portions of the base now dominated by mature ash and elm trees. The buildings on base were built in a Georgian/Traditional style. Visually, this section is the most cohesive area on the base. The consistent use of brick, limestone, and red tile architecturally unifies the area. The landscaping and consistent architectural style have combined to create a campus-like visual environment.

The recreation areas on base provide other visually interesting areas. These areas combine large spaces with widely spaced mature trees. The golf course and the new recreation lake provide opportunities for bird watching and other outdoor activities.

Over the past few years, several plans have been written that address visual aesthetics on Chanute AFB. These plans are the Outdoor Recreation Plan, the Fish and Wildlife Plan, the Landscape Development Plan, and the Architectural Environment Guidelines. Each plan has components that address landscape issues, such as planting appropriate vegetation in sufficient quantities. This landscaping also provides habitat and food for wildlife. The Architectural Environment Guidelines propose to establish a base-wide design theme.

### **3.10 Transportation**

The closure of Chanute AFB would require transport of personnel, aircraft, missiles, and other supplies and equipment associated with course groups located at the Technical Training Center (see Table 3.7.) These courses will be relocated to Sheppard AFB, Wichita Falls, Texas; Lowry AFB, Denver, Colorado; Goodfellow AFB, San Angelo, Texas; and Keesler AFB, Biloxi, Mississippi (see Figure 3.8.)

# ORIGIN-DESTINATION LOGISTICS MATRIX

NOTES:

1. ESTIMATED NUMBERS ROUNDED TO THE NEAREST 10.
2. HIGHWAY DISTANCE MEASURED IN MILES BY THE MINIMUM DISTANCE PATH.
3. AIR DISTANCE REPRESENTS STRAIGHT LINE ROUTES FROM ORIGIN TO DESTINATION.
4. ROAD MILEAGES DO NOT INCLUDE ACCESS DISTANCE TO TERMINAL.
5. MODE CAPACITIES FOR MAXIMUM AVAILABLE PAYLOAD.
6. AHD, AVERAGE HAIL DISTANCE PER MODE 1985.
7. NA, NOT APPLICABLE

SOURCES:

U.S. ROAD ATLAS 1989, RAND McNALLY

NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION POLICIES THROUGH THE YEAR 2000 FINAL REPORT 1979, NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION POLICY STUDY COMMISSION

JANE'S, ALL THE WORLD'S AIRCRAFT 1984-87

OMIO RIVER NAVIGATION SYSTEM 1988 REPORT, U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

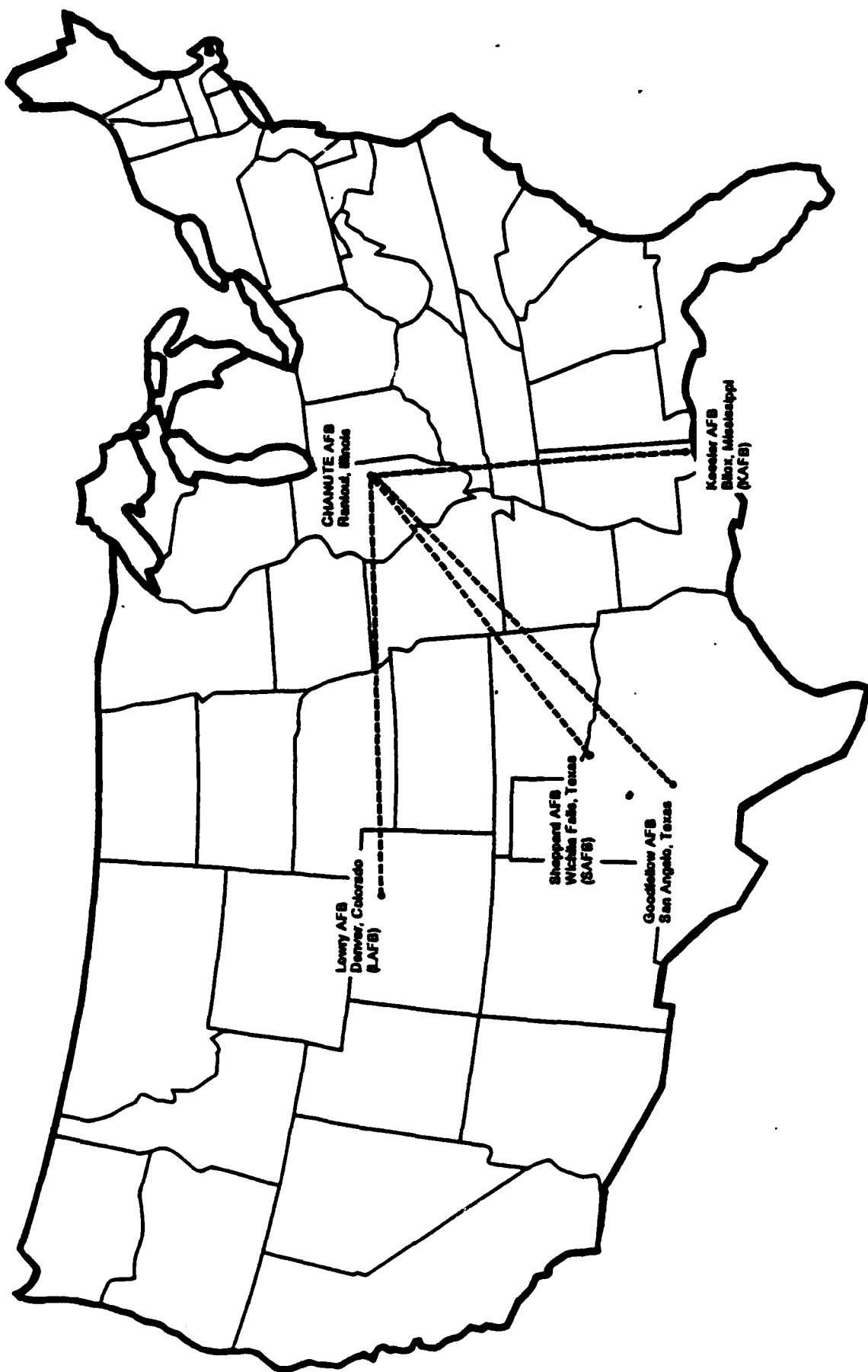
TRANSPORTATION IN AMERICA, 1989

ENO FOUNDATION FOR TRANSPORTATION

110344 335  
ASSUMPTION;

Figure 3.8

# LOCATION OF RECEIVING BASES



Source: Woodport Consultants

Chanute AFB is located in Rantoul, Illinois, 14 miles north of Champaign. The base is close to the U.S. Interstate System; it is two miles east of Interstate 57 and 14 miles north of Interstate 74. Rantoul is 121 miles south of Chicago and 100 miles east of the Mississippi River. There are 5,960 military and 991 civilians assigned to Chanute. Most of the military positions are filled by students. The average daily number of students is 3,370.

The relocation will not include students; they will be sent to new training center locations. There are 1,310 military and 590 civilian positions being relocated. In addition, three categories of cargo must be shipped including equipment/supplies, workstations, and personal property. There are 2,204 tons of equipment/supplies, 1,425 tons of office workstations, and 3,446 tons of personal property cargo.

Lowry AFB is located in Denver, Colorado directly west of Aurora. Lowry is also close to the interstate system; it is four miles south of Interstate 70 and within four to six miles of Interstates 25 and 225. The Lowry Technical Training Center will be gaining 320 military and 170 civilian positions. The weight of equipment and property associated with relocating the vehicle maintenance, minuteman missile, and SCRAM/ALCM course groups is approximately 1,500 tons. The highway distance is 980 miles from Chanute AFB.

Sheppard AFB is located in Wichita Falls, Texas. Sheppard is also served by the interstate system; it is within one mile of Interstate 44. Sheppard is also within 100 miles of the Dallas/Ft. Worth metropolitan area. The Sheppard Technical Training Center will be gaining 580 military and 280 civilian positions. The weight of the equipment and property associated with relocating the CE Liquid Fuels, Jet Engine/Test Cells/Turbo Prop, Metals processing and ACE, ACT Systems, FAB/Chute Egress, and Life Support course groups is 3,200 tons. The highway distance is 790 miles from Chanute AFB.

Goodfellow AFB is located in San Angelo, Texas. Goodfellow does not have access to the interstate system; however, it is served by major arterials and four-lane divided, limited access highways. Goodfellow is within four miles of U.S. Route 277. It is also served by U.S. Routes 87 and U.S. Routes 67. The closest interstate is I-20, which is almost 70 miles north of the base. San Angelo is 214 miles west of San Antonio. The base is 130 miles north of the Rio Grande River. The Goodfellow Technical Training Center will be gaining 230 military and 70 civilian positions. The weight of the equipment and property associated with relocating the fuels and fire course groups is 1,700 tons. The highway distance is 1,050 miles from Chanute AFB.

Keesler AFB is located in Biloxi, Mississippi. Keesler has good access to the interstate system; it is one mile west of Interstate 110 and six miles south of Interstate 10. Biloxi is within 80 miles of the Port of New Orleans and is directly north of the Gulf of Mexico. Mobile, Alabama is 50 miles to the east. The Keesler Technical Training Center will be gaining 180 military and 70 civilian positions. The weight of the equipment and property associated with relocating the weather and weather maintenance course groups is 680 tons. The highway distance is 810 miles from Chanute AFB.

### 3.11 Socioeconomic Factors

The Village of Rantoul, Illinois is part of the Champaign-Urbana-Rantoul Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA), which also includes the Cities of Champaign and Urbana. The 1987 population estimate for the Village is 20,690, which is a 2.6 percent increase from the 1980 census figures. The Village is the third largest municipality with Champaign (59,180) and Urbana (36,892) being first and second. The population estimate for Champaign County is 172,700, an increase of 2.5 percent since 1980. This indicates a slow growth of a relatively stable population number. These figures include approximately 3,250 permanent parties and families living on Chanute AFB and approximately 4,000 students in training. The County has over 64,072 households with an average household size of 2.3 people. Rantoul has approximately 6,198 households with a higher household size of 2.8 people. A greater part of the total Rantoul population is between 18 and 34 years of age with the median age being 22. The median household income for the County is more than \$25,000 with a per capita income of \$11,875. Rantoul's per capita income is slightly lower at \$9,600.

The total civilian employed labor force is 84,125 for Champaign County. Chanute Air Force Base employs approximately 2,397 civilian personnel. The County had the lowest unemployment rate of all the Illinois metropolitan areas in 1987 and 1988. The average number of employed people in the Champaign County labor force increased in 1988 to 84,118 adding 1,019 new jobs over the 1987 average. The annual unemployment rate is 4.2 percent for the County and approximately five percent for Rantoul. Changes in 1988 employment by industry compared to 1980 showed the private and public sectors added jobs. The most dramatic changes occurred in professional services, which increased 46 percent.

Industrial expansion has been a goal of the Rantoul Community for the past 20 years. During this period, seven major plants have settled in the community employing approximately 2,000 people. These plants produce diverse products such as wooden doors and windows, motorcycle helmets, automobile dashboards, electronic components, and other auto-related components.

#### 4. ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES

##### 4.0 General Information

The Air Force is aware of its legal and regulatory responsibilities and will conduct closure in accordance with all applicable Federal and State Requirements. The withdrawal and closure will provide generally positive impacts on the biological and human environment of Chanute AFB. The impacts to these environments will result from the removal of equipment and base personnel. The following sections describe the biophysical impacts of the closure of Chanute AFB.

##### 4.1 Project Area

###### 4.1.1 Climate

The closure of Chanute AFB will have no impact on the local climate.

###### 4.1.2 Topography

The closure of Chanute AFB will have no impact on the topography of the base.

###### 4.1.3 Zoning and Political Boundaries

Chanute AFB is within the corporate limits of the Village of Rantoul and has a zoning ordinance designation of G-1. The closure of the base will not change any current political boundaries, but could eventually result in a zoning change for this area. The current zoning (designated government, G-1) provides for unrestricted use of the property and prohibits any restrictions on the type of building construction on base. The closure of the base and possible future rezoning could allow the Village of Rantoul to regulate future land use on the base.

###### Chapman Court

This housing area will be disposed also. Because the Air Force has discontinued maintenance in this housing annex, the development has deteriorated. The condition of the annex will continue to worsen as a result of the closure process. To prevent non-recoverable deterioration, a minimal maintenance program has been instituted.

## 4.2 Physical Environment

### 4.2.1 Geology and Minerals

The geology and mineral resources on the base will be insignificantly affected. Local sand and gravel mining will be affected by the closure.

### 4.2.2 Paleontology

The closure of Chanute AFB will have no impact on the paleontology deposits beneath the base.

### 4.2.3 Soils

The development of Chanute AFB has generally followed the development potential of the soils on the base. Construction techniques now allow development on soils that were not previously considered well-suited for development. This may have an impact on the future development of the base. Closure of the base should have some positive impacts on the base soils, because training, maintenance, or new construction for new military missions will no longer be a concern. The elimination of new construction will prevent grading or excavating for base needs, allowing the soil to retain its natural profile. The elimination of construction by the military will also reduce the amount of soil erosion. Areas of prime farmland are currently being used for agricultural purposes as part of the base's outlease program. These areas may still be available for agricultural purposes depending on the future uses of the base. The risks of soil contamination by spills or unintended releases of hazardous materials due to military operations would be eliminated.

## 4.3 Noise Factors

When flights were discontinued and the runways were closed in the early 1970s, the most significant producer of noise was eliminated from the base. Since that time, the noise impacts have been the result of normal base operations and the movement of traffic.

Due to reductions in traffic and the elimination of construction and base operations, the noise levels will decrease when the base is closed. During the movement of equipment, supplies, and personnel, the amount of traffic noise will increase insignificantly. This insignificant increase would be offset by reduced numbers of personnel and traffic on the base.

#### 4.4 Air Quality

The Chanute-Rantoul community is within the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency's, East Central Illinois Intrastate Air Quality Control Region. This region enjoys generally good air quality. The only standard exceeded by the air quality region was for total suspended particulates (TSP) on one occasion in 1987 (Illinois EPA, Division of Air Pollution Control, 1988.) Even though air quality standards for TSPs were exceeded once, this did not constitute a violation since the short-term standards are values that are not to be exceeded once per year. The base closure will significantly reduce the number of motor vehicles in the Chanute-Rantoul community resulting in lower automobile emissions. The existing steam generating plant will be operated at a reduced level, and the pathological incinerator at the hospital will be shut down. The particulate pollution will be decreased by reducing the emission sources mentioned above; however, due to the intensity of agricultural land use in the area, particulates could still be a source of pollution.

The reductions of air pollutant emissions are not expected to result in significant changes in local air quality. As shown in Table 3.3, the estimated emissions from the base are only a small portion of the total emissions for Champaign County.

#### 4.5 Water Resources

##### 4.5.1 Groundwater Resources

The base receives its water from nine deep wells drilled into the Kansan aquifer. The closure will decrease the demand for drinking water. This decrease will have a subsequent decrease in the amount of water pumped from the ground. The closure of the base will preclude new construction for military operations. Therefore, the impervious surface on the base will not increase. This will have a positive impact on the upper aquifer because the base is within the recharge area for the Wisconsin aquifer. The maintenance of the base's vegetation will decrease, resulting in less surface water runoff. Also, the water will percolate more readily into the ground.

The closure of the base will eliminate the risk of inadvertent releases or spills of hazardous materials due to training and base operations. At Chanute AFB, the IRP is currently in the Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study phase, the phase in which problems are quantified and their extent and seriousness studied. As the IRP progresses, the program will reach the Remedial Action

(RA) phase. Prior to this, the proper groundwater mitigation measures will be determined.

#### 4.5.2 Surface Waters

Surface waters on Chanute AFB are relatively scarce. The three golf course ponds total six acres in surface size, and the recreation lake is approximately 20 acres. Until the property is transferred to civilian hands, the Air Force will maintain the lake level as needed by pumping groundwater.

Salt Fork Creek would receive a positive impact from the closure of the base. The creek will not be contaminated due to hazardous material spills. The reduction of motor vehicles on the base will result in less pollutants running off the parking lots and roads. There will be less surface runoff from construction areas and the base in general. The reduced surface water drainage should result in less siltation of Salt Fork Creek.

#### 4.6 Waste Management

##### 4.6.1 Solid Waste

The closure of Chanute AFB will result in a beneficial impact to the Village of Rantoul landfill. The reduction in the amount of waste from the base should give the landfill a longer life span. The waste generated by the closure will not provide a significant increase in solid waste because of the total base reduction.

##### 4.6.2 Hazardous Waste Storage Facility

All the waste stored in the facility will be properly disposed of and all residual contamination will be remediated in accordance with an EPA approved closure plan. Sampling will occur at the hazardous waste accumulation points as well as an assessment of whether a history of spills has occurred at any of these accumulation points.

##### 4.6.3 Wastewater Treatment

The closure of Chanute AFB will result in less wastewater flow into Rantoul's wastewater treatment plant. This reduced flow will have an effect on Rantoul's wastewater treatment plant.

The closure of Chanute will result in the loss of approximately 50 percent of the average daily flow to the treatment facility. This loss of flow will greatly affect the following areas: 1) three in-plant pumping facilities, 2) all clarifiers and packed tower reactors, 3) all pressure and gravity piping systems, 4) sludge handling facilities, and 5) plant O&M staff (Mike Little, Sodemann and Associates, Inc., 1989.) Preliminary information shows impacts as follows:

1. In-Plant Pumping Facilities

Three in-plant pumping stations are in operation. With a 50 percent reduction in flow rate to these facilities, two major problems will arise. The first problem is due to excessive cycling of the 30 to 125 horsepower motors driving these pumps. Excessive cycling will result in heat build-up in the motor and controls resulting in motor failure. The larger motors will not function properly and will need to be replaced with small pumps and motors sized for the reduced flow rates to be expected. The second problem involves the doubled detention time in each pump station wet well. At reduced flow rates, these detention times will exceed EPA standards and will result in a deterioration of wastewater quality and potential hazardous conditions for the treatment facility.

2. Clarifiers and Packed Towers

The treatment plant consists of three stages of clarification and two stages of packed tower biological reactors. At the reduced flow rates it will be necessary to remove units from service to maintain proper loading rates on the remaining units. It is unknown how this can be accomplished to prevent long-term degradation of the structures and the equipment/media therein. At this point, it would appear that the cost to take these units out of service, in a manner that will not allow degradation, will be equal to the continued cost to operate and maintain them.

3. Pressure and Gravity Piping Systems

Reduced flow rates through the facility will result in additional maintenance problems associated with low flow velocities in all piping systems. It is uncertain at this time what the overall effect will be, but it is certain that pipe fouling and plugging problems will arise when the flows are reduced.

#### 4. Sludge Handling Facilities

The treatment plant uses an anaerobic digester and raw sludge handling facilities with drying by belt filter presses. The reduced solids loading to the digester will either make it inoperable or too expensive to run due to reduced gas production. In either case, it will force all sludge handling to the raw sludge facilities, which will result in a higher cost per thousand gallons of sewage treated, since no solids will be reduced through the digester.

#### 5. Plant O&M Staff

The reduction in flows will not result in a proportionate reduction in personnel. The facility is already at minimum staffing levels acceptable to the Illinois EPA and minimum numbers of operators to man a two-shift, seven-day-per-week operation. In addition, all stages of treatment will remain, although the number of units in operation in some stages may be reduced. The current maintenance staff is marginally adequate for the present operation and could only be reduced minimally, if at all, in the event of the loss of Chanute's flows.

Chanute may not maintain the connection to the municipal wastewater treatment plant to accommodate the infiltration/inflow (I/I). The I/I is approximately 25 percent of the total flow. The I/I is stormwater that enters the sewage system through leaks, cracks, manholes, or malfunctioning seals. If the connection to wastewater treatment plant is not maintained, flooding may occur in basements and lowlying areas. One alternative to maintaining the connection would be to flush the lines and shunt any I/I into Salt Fork Creek. The base will use existing piping to discharge into Salt Fork Creek.

In summary, the loss of flow from Chanute will result in numerous operating problems, some requiring capital improvements to correct. It will also result in a 45 to 50 percent loss in revenue with almost no drop in operation and maintenance expenses.

#### 4.6.4 Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCB)

In October 1989, a survey will be conducted to test for PCB concentrations. Current Air Training Command plans call for Chanute AFB to be free of PCB prior to transfer of the property.

#### 4.6.5 Asbestos

The extent of asbestos on Chanute is not currently known. The asbestos survey planned for 1990 will be completed before disposal of the base. Because the extent of asbestos is not known, the impacts from base closure will depend on the extent and condition of the asbestos identified.

#### 4.6.6 Underground Storage Tanks

The Air Force will closely coordinate the disposition of USTs with the Illinois State Fire Marshal and EPA, Region V.

#### 4.6.7 Other

##### Oil/Water Separators

The oil/water separators will either be disposed of or decontaminated depending on base reuse. The separators and resulting sludges will need to be disposed of if there is no further need for them. Decontamination will include pumping all compartments of the separator and removing oils, volatiles, and aqueous and sludge layers, including sand and grit.

##### Above-Ground Bulk Storage Tanks

These tanks will be drained and purged of flammable gases to minimize the risk of accidental ignition or explosion. The final disposition of these tanks will be determined when the base ownership is transferred.

##### Radon

The Air Force will disclose results of all radon testing including radon levels in housing units.

#### 4.7 Installation Restoration Program

The closure of Chanute AFB will prevent new hazardous waste sites from being generated by the military in the short- or long-term. The elimination of hazardous substances releases

will have a positive impact on the biological and physical environment on the base. The impact of hazardous substances releases will probably not be short-term. The sites under investigation could be restricted from future development until any necessary remedial actions are completed.

The Installation Restoration Program (IRP) would not be affected by implementation of closure. The IRP is independent of the base closure process, and will continue, as needed, after the military mission has been terminated. Through this program, the United States Air Force is committed to thoroughly investigate and remediate contaminated sites as needed. The Air Force, EPA, Region V, and the State of Illinois will be involved in decisions on the clean-up of contaminated sites.

#### **4.8 Biological Environment**

The withdrawal of military personnel and closure of the base generally will have positive impacts on the biological environment. Because of the decreased amount of maintenance and military operations, the base may provide a better habitat for plant and animal species. The animals common to Chanute AFB (Table 3.5) are ordinarily found in the type of environment that exists on the base. With the elimination of base operations, their habitat may increase in quality and size. These increases in habitat quality and size may be tempered if the recommendations of the Fish and Wildlife Management Plan are not carried out before closure of the base. The tree planting and landscaping around the recreation lake are especially important to habitat development.

No threatened or endangered plant or animal species will be negatively affected by the base closure.

#### **4.9 Cultural Resources**

Native American sites or other prehistoric or historic archaeological will not be negatively affected as a result of base closure.

No prehistoric or historic archaeological sites will be affected by the base closure.

Currently, no sites or districts on Chanute AFB are listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Some buildings in the Old Main base area may be listed when they are 50 years old (1991.) The base closure should not have significant adverse impacts on any possible sites (districts) since the Air Force is committed to continual base maintenance until ownership of the base is transferred.

After closure, the base will be maintained at a level sufficient to prevent deterioration of property. The grounds probably would not be maintained at the present level; however, because base maintenance will continue, no significant adverse effects to visual and aesthetic values are anticipated.

#### 4.10 Transportation Impacts

None of the transportation modes used to relocate the designated course groups will cause negative impacts.

The urban area of Champaign-Urbana-Rantoul, Illinois has a daily commute time (journey-to-work trip) of 34 minutes. According to the 1988 edition of Places Rated Almanac, the freeway traffic is considered to be a moderate flow during peak conditions. It has been determined that the local highway network will absorb any increase in truck traffic as a result of the base closure and will not experience adverse travel impacts during peak or non-peak periods. Similarly, current scheduling parameters offset any adverse impacts of relocating the course groups through the use of either of the modes in the local area of Rantoul, Illinois.

The shorter period of time for movement of each course move will not cause adverse impacts to the local road network. The increase in truck traffic will be offset by a reduced number of vehicles on and off base. Scheduling truck and/or rail movements to and from the base during the non-peak traffic hours would also prevent impacts.

#### 4.11 Socioeconomic Factors

An EIS is required to discuss socioeconomic effects only when such effects are interrelated with natural or physical effects. During preparation of this EIS, the Air Force considered whether any indirect biophysical effects could be attributed to socioeconomic impacts. Except in the case of the Village of Rantoul Wastewater Treatment Plant, no such effects or interrelationships were found. Therefore, it was not necessary for the completeness of the environmental analysis to forecast socioeconomic consequences, and this EIS does not attempt to do so.

However, the Air Force is sensitive to the community upheaval caused by closing a major employer like an Air Force base. Therefore, the Air Force is working with the Office of Economic Adjustment (OEA) to assist those communities expected to be hardest hit as a result of base closure.

Also, a second EIS will be prepared to cover the Air Force's proposed final disposition of the base property including community reuse. A study will be conducted to examine the overall effects on socioeconomic factors. This study will be included in the second EIS. For example, this study will include anticipated loss of tax revenues, housing and school impacts, and the loss of employment from base closure as if there were no positive benefits from reuse. These elements will then be compared to the gains expected as a result of the reuse options for the base. The positive and negative impacts will be discussed in the second EIS to help the Air Force in its decision making with respect to disposal and reuse. Such analysis will be less speculative than it would be if were it undertaken today, since an important component, development reuse options including a community reuse plan, will then be available.

The Office of Economic Adjustment (OEA), located in the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense, provides the chief staff arm for the President's Economic Adjustment Committee (EAC.) The EAC consists of the federal department and agency heads and was established under Executive Order 12049 on March 27, 1978, to bring to bear the resources of various federal agencies in assisting communities affected by base closures.

One of OEA's activities is to assist these communities to develop and implement a comprehensive economic recovery program. The EAC then affords priority assistance to community requests for federal technical assistance, financial resources, excess or surplus property, or other requirements that are part of this program.

Economic adjustment programs have been initiated in the communities affected by the Commission on Base Realignment and Closures. Where required, OEA is providing impact planning grants for community base reuse plans.

#### 4.12 Relationship Between Short-Term Uses and Long-Term Productivity of the Environment

The closure of Chanute AFB was recommended by the Secretary of Defense's Commission on Base Realignment and Closure. The closure of the base would discontinue all current military uses of the base. After closure, the risk of accidental hazardous material spills or releases due to the military will no longer be present.

The sites currently under investigation will preclude development in those areas until they have been fully investigated and the threat to life is determined as insignificant or the necessary cleanup is completed.

The long term socioeconomic productivity for the Village of Rantoul is not discussed in this document. A second EIS will be prepared to cover the Air Force's proposed final disposition of the base property, including community reuse. A study will be conducted to examine the overall effects on socioeconomic factors. This study will be included in the second EIS.

The general impacts to the environment will be beneficial in the short-term. The long-term impacts are unknown because the future uses of the base have not been determined.

#### **4.13 Irreversible or Irretrievable Commitments of Resources**

Due to the transportation requirements of the closure action, the energy usage will temporarily increase. Other minor resources that would be irretrievably committed are landfill capacity and resources used to manufacture packing materials. No demolition of activities is planned due to the closure of the base. Therefore, irreversible and irretrievable commitments of resources will be minor.

5. AGENCIES CONTACTED

1. Champaign County - Zoning Administrator - Ty Clapper
2. Chanute Air Force Base - Major Dave Wittnebert  
Bob Hannah, 3330 ABG/DEE, Chief of  
Engineering  
John Hinton, 3330 ABG/DEE,  
Environmental Coordinator
3. Headquarters, Air Training Command, Randolph Air  
Force Base, Texas.- Catherine Hitchins
4. Illinois State Natural History Survey  
Division - Head, Wildlife Research Section, Dr. Glen Sanderson
5. Illinois Historic Preservation Office - Anne M. Haaker, Coordinator  
Resource Protection Services
6. Illinois Department of Conservation -  
Natural Heritage Division - John Buhnerkempe - Data Coordinator
7. Illinois Environmental Protection Agency -  
Air Quality Analysis - Supervisor, Bob Swinford  
Division of Water Pollution Control - Manager, Compliance  
Assurance - Kenneth R.  
Rogers  
Division of Public Water Supplies - Manager, Administrative  
Operations - Richard D.  
Coffman
8. Sodemann and Associates, Inc. - Mike Little
9. United States Fish and Wildlife Service - Fish and Wildlife Biologist  
- Bill Harrison  
- Fish and Wildlife  
Biologist - Jerry Vade
10. Village of Rantoul - John Reale - Superintendent of Water and  
Wastewater Departments  
Mayor Podagrosi  
Frank Elliott - Consultant for Economic  
Development

### List of Preparers

#### United States Air Force

Catherine Hitchins, B.S. Civil Engineering - 3 years in Environmental Engineering - Headquarters, Air Training Command

#### United States Army Corps of Engineers, Louisville District

William R. Haynes, M.A. English - 11 years Environmental Protection Specialist

#### Woolpert Consultants

Mark Lawner, PCP, AICP, Project Principal - M.S. City and Regional Planning - 25 years in environmental and city/regional planning.

Fred Zeidman, AICP, Director of Planning - MUP (Master of Urban Planning) - 15 years in city/regional and environmental planning.

Warren C. High, Biologist/Project Manager - B.S. Fisheries and Wildlife Biology - 9 years in environmental biology and impact assessment.

Dave Cornell, P.E., M.S. Civil Engineering - 30 years in environmental program management and administration.

Mark Ray, Biologist - M.S. Environmental Science - 7 years in applied ecology and environmental impact analysis.

Sue Hiller, Environmental Planner - M.S. Soil, Water, and Engineering - 8 years in soil science, environmental planning, and archaeology.

A. Carlos Landaburu, Environmental Scientist, PH.D. - 14 years in environmental impact analysis

Robert Flood, Aquatic Biologist, B.S. Biology - 3 years in preparation of aquatic baseline studies and environmental impact analyses.

Stephen P. Phipps, Geologist/environmental scientist, B.S. Geology - 4 years geologic mapping and computer modeling.

David Hafley, AICP, Senior Planner - Master of Urban and Regional Planning - 10 years in land use and environmental planning.

Mark S. Cundiff, Environmental/Land Use Planner, M.A. Community Development and Planning - 6 years in land use and environmental planning.

## List of Preparers (Continued)

William Wilbert, Senior Landscape Architect/Environmental Planner, B.L.A.  
Landscape Architecture - 12 years in site analyses and impact  
assessments.

Will C. Ballard, Environmental Planner, Master of Urban Planning - 2 years  
land use and environmental planning.

Howard Wienerman, Environmental Scientist, B.S. Science Administration and  
Biology - 10 years in environmental sampling and analysis.

Sharon Rozier, Land Use Planner, B.S. Urban Planning - 5 year Socioeconomic  
Analysis.

Charles Everett, Transportation Planner, B.S. Urban Studies - 5 years  
Transportation Planning.

## APPENDIX

### Assumptions for Closure Implementation

This sections explains the assumptions used to quantify the transportation impacts of the Chanute AFB closure and resource relocation. The results presented were derived for impact assessment purposes and may not accurately reflect actual closure plans. The potential environmental impacts of implementing the closure are defined by the quantities and types of materials being transported and by the mode of transportation. For this purpose, quantities of weight have been associated with personnel being relocated, equipment, and supplies. All of the applicable modes of freight transportation have been shown to relate the utility or disutility of each mode for providing long-haul transport services. It is assumed that each of the modes; truck, train, plane, and barge or a combination of these modes will be considered. Pipeline was excluded due to the lack of adequate pipeline network. For this purpose, the following quantities of personnel and equipment have been determined.

The total working force, military and civilian, at Chanute is approximately 5,950. However, the number of people involved in the relocation is 1,900. This number has been estimated based on the 3,370 average daily students who will no longer go to Chanute for training. Approximately 50 percent of the current civilian employees and the military training personnel are associated with the course groups.

It is assumed that each workstation contains an average of 1,500 pounds of equipment (Mather AFB 1988) and that each employee represents a workstation. Thus, it is estimated that in addition to the 2,204 tons of course group equipment, 1,425 tons of office workstation equipment will be moved.

It was also assumed that 64 percent of military and 39 percent of civilian employees are single (BCP 79.) Single personnel were assumed to occupy three rooms and personnel with dependents five rooms. Rooms were calculated as containing 1,000 lb. (Mather AFB.) Therefore, the amount of personal property weight is 3,446 tons.

The combination of equipment, workstations, and personal property brings the total weight of materials to be moved to approximately 7,075 tons.

It is assumed that 838 military and 220 single civilian employees will be flown via commercial air to their respective bases. The other 472 military and 361 civilian employees and families will be flown via commercial air or use their privately owned vehicles to reach their destinations.

Other sources of information were:

"USAF Almanac Portrait of the Air Force" Air Force Magazine May, 1989, Air Force Association.

"Freight Data Requirements for Statewide Transportation Systems Planning" NCHRP Report 177, 1977, Transportation Research Board.

Intermodal Freight Transportation 1985, Eno Foundation for Transportation.

Transportation America's Lifeline 1987, Information Aids, Inc.

## Modal Considerations

### Highways

The national system of Interstate and Defense Highways is over 96 percent complete with only one percent of the proposed work not begun. Much of the remaining work consists of urban arterials, which are extremely expensive because of the cost of land acquisition. In 1985, trucks accounted for 26 percent of the vehicle miles traveled on interstate highways. Trucks carrying freight accounted for 24.8 percent. This includes 600,000 ton-miles of cargo. The motor carrier was the second highest cargo mode of transport.

### Rail

The American Railroad system is almost completely occupied with freight traffic. Of the \$27,586 billion in 1985 operating revenues, \$26,688 billion (97 percent) was generated by freight operations. The rails accounted for 37.2 percent of intercity freight traffic and 898,000 ton-miles of cargo. The train was the primary cargo carrier.

### Air

All air freight shipments can be considered intermodal because a truck is used for origin/destination to and from the terminal access and egress. No direct pick-up or delivery occurs between the airplane and the shippers location. Also, in a longhaul air-surface move, the shipper gets the benefit of airspeed for a portion of the routing and lower surface rates for the other portion. Generally, air-freight shipment is the most expensive. Commercial freight carriers moved only three percent of the freight in 1985.

### Waterway

In 1985, water transport moved over 13 percent of all freight in the United States. This figure compares with 37 percent of the freight that is transported by rail, 25 percent that is transported by truck, and 23 percent that is transported by pipeline. Although water represents only a small percentage, it is still a significant mode of transportation. Water shipment is limited by the location of the waterways and the cities that border the rivers and oceans. Delivery is slower; however, water transport is often less expensive than rail or truck and larger shipments can be moved more easily.

## References

- Bull, John, and John Farrand Jr. 1977. The Audobon Society Field Guide to North American Birds. Alfred A. Knopf, New York
- Burt, William H. and Richard P. Grossenheider. 1964. A Field Guide to the Mammals. Second Ed. Houghton Mifflin Company, Boston.
- Conant, Roger. 1958. A Field Guide to Reptiles and Amphibians. Houghton Mifflin Company, Boston.
- Engineering-Science. 1983. Installation Restoration Program, Phase I Records Search, Chanute AFB, Illinois.
- \_\_\_\_\_. 1987. Installation Restoration Program, Remedial Investigation Feasibility Study (Phase II- IVA) work Plan Chanute AFB, Illinois.
- \_\_\_\_\_. 1988. Installation Restoration Program, Remedial Investigation - Feasibility Study (Phase II-IVA), Quality Assurance Project Plan, Chanute AFB, Illinois.
- Harkness, Terrence G. 1985. Chanute AFB Landscape Development Plan. University of Illinois.
- Harland Bartholomew and Associates, Inc. 1987. Chanute AFB Architectural Guidelines Northbrook, Illinois.
- \_\_\_\_\_. 1987. Chanute AFB Comprehensive Plan Report. Northbrook, Illinois.
- Illinois Environmental Protection Agency. 1988. 1987 Annual Air Quality Report. Springfield, Illinois.
- \_\_\_\_\_. 1989, 1988 Annual Air Quality Report. Springfield, Illinois.
- \_\_\_\_\_. 1987-1989. Groundwater Quality Data for Chanute AFB and the Village of Rantoul. Springfield, Illinois.
- \_\_\_\_\_. 1986-1989. Surface Water Quality Data for Chanute AFB and the Village of Rantoul. Springfield, Illinois.
- \_\_\_\_\_. 1986-1990. National Pollution Discharge Elimination System Permit No. IL0022128 for the Village of Rantoul, Illinois. Springfield, Illinois.
- \_\_\_\_\_. 1983-1988. National Pollution Discharge Elimination System Permit. No. IL0027073 for Chanute AFB, Illinois. Springfield, Illinois.

Indiana Department of Highways, 1989. Procedure Manual for Preparing Environmental Studies. Indianapolis, Indiana.

Marek, Kevin. 1986. Chanute AFB Cropland Management Plan. Chanute AFB, Illinois.

Martin, Alexander C., Arnold L. Nelson, and Herbert S. Zim. 1951. American Wildlife and Plants, a Guide to Wildlife Food Habits, Dover Publications, Inc. New York.

Penney, Jane, P.E. and Terrance Harkness. 1984. Chanute AFB Fish and Wildlife Management Plan. Chanute AFB, Illinois.

\_\_\_\_\_. 1984. Chanute AFB Outdoor Recreation Plan. Chanute AFB, Illinois.

Report of the Defense Secretary's Commission. Base Realignments and Closures. December, 1988.

Robbins, Chandler S., Bertel Bruun, and Herbert S. Zim, 1983. Revised Ed. Birds of North America. Golden Press, New York.

Roy F. Weston, Inc. 1984. Installation Restoration Program Phase II, Problem Confirmation and Quantification, Presurvey Report for Chanute AFB, Illinois. West Chester, Pennsylvania.

\_\_\_\_\_. 1986. Installation Restoration Program Phase II Confirmation/Quantification Stage I, Volume I for Chanute AFB, Illinois. West Chester, Pennsylvania.

Soil Conservation Service. 1979. Soil Survey of Champaign County, Illinois.

Trautman, Milton. 1981. The Fishes of Ohio. Ohio State University Press, Columbus, Ohio.

United States Air Force. 1985. Air Force Installation Restoration Program Management Guidance.

\_\_\_\_\_. 1986. Management of Hazardous Waste CTTC Plan 708.

\_\_\_\_\_. 1984. Management of Recoverable and Waste Liquid Petroleum Products, CAFB Plan 211.

\_\_\_\_\_. 1988. Spill Prevention and Response Plan. CTTC Plan 705.

\_\_\_\_\_. 1979. Tab A-1 Environmental Narrative for Chanute AFB, Illinois.

Village of Rantoul. 1969 Zoning and Use Regulating Ordinance. Village of Rantoul, Illinois.

APPENDIX B

9/28/89

# Rantoul City Schools

District 137  
Champaign County  
DAVID D. GLISSON, Superintendent  
400 East Walnut Avenue  
Rantoul, Illinois 61066

## CHANUTE AFB CLOSURE IMPACT RANTOUL CITY SCHOOLS, DISTRICT #137 RANTOUL, ILLINOIS

The Rantoul City Schools consists of six buildings that enroll 2,483 students in grades K through 8 and Special Education. This enrollment consists of 65% base connected students and 35% non-base connected students. The following impact structure has been organized based on the assumption that all military and civilian connected base personnel will move from the community due to the base closure. It appears that the district could very well expect a worse case scenario of approximately 880 K-8 students and two buildings remaining open to provide for the educational needs of these students. 233 staff members are currently needed to meet all of the staffing needs in the six buildings. If the base closes it will take approximately 84 staff members thereby reducing total staff by 149. If this scenario would come about, the district would be required to close four of the present six buildings over a period of time as the Air Force gradually phased out its operation. Due to the present federal and state funding formulas, the district would lose approximately 70% of its State and Federal resources. This would not take into account the potential loss in local taxes due to the lower tax assessment created by decreased property values. Some real estate sources have indicated property values could be lowered as much as 30% or more.

Even though the present Impact Aid Law under Section 3E indicated a provision to provide transition funds for school districts in the event that a military installation closes, there is no present appropriation at the federal level as we understand it. Dr. John Lynch, Deputy Secretary of the Defense, has proposed that \$20-\$25,000,000 be appropriated by Congress to assist federally impacted districts. First impressions are that \$45,000,000 may be needed during the first year funding. A more detailed study is going to be conducted during the first part of March to assess this in greater detail. The point is that a special appropriation would have to be requested from Congress and it would have to be realized that this would need to be funded during a number of the transitional years. It is also requested that the military authorities communicate

to the local school systems early each year due to a requirement in Illinois which requires districts make staff decisions sixty days before school is out otherwise those staff members are automatically employed for the next year. The timing between staff needs and student reductions due to the closure would be essential to keep from destroying the local schools.

It is obvious the approximate loss of 149 jobs would have significant impact upon the district and the community. At the present time, it represents one of the leading employers in Champaign County. The district has been recognized for a number of years as providing outstanding educational services to students. During 1987-88, the district was evaluated by the state office and has been recommended to be placed on a 5-year cycle, rather than the traditional 3. The evaluation team indicated this recommendation was being made because of the obvious outstanding facilities, staff and services being provided to students. During 1969 the district reached its peak in enrollment of 4,900 students. That enrollment has decreased in recent years to a low of 2,270 and has since increased to 2,483. During this decline from 4,900 to the present number the special education classes have grown from six (1969) to twenty-one. One of the main reasons for this increase in special education services is due to the active work of the Chap Organization within the Air Force. The entire Rantoul area has a very high reputation for providing quality special education services. We understand that this is not necessarily the case at other bases throughout the country. If this be the case, the impact on the quality of those special education programs being provided for students could be decreased in a very significant manner.

One other factor that would normally go unnoticed in a statistical study and report, is that of the quality of the people who make up the staff of Rantoul City Schools. For a number of years, the district has expended quite a lot of time and energy in outstanding research to recruit a very competent staff. Not only will there be severe economic and potential program reductions as a result of the Chanute Air Force Base closure, it will also have a devastating impact upon the high morale, cooperative spirit and team work currently provided by the present staff. Outside state evaluation teams and visitors to the district frequently remark about the special caring quality that seems to exist among the Rantoul City Schools "family". Research indicates that students learn best when an environment of this nature is provided for educational progress and development to occur. The following statistics are provided for your consideration using the 1987-88 school year's financial data.

## Exhibit 1

| I. ENROLLMENT IMPACT                           | PRE-CLOSURE<br>(9/30/87) | POST-CLOSURE |
|--|--------------------------|--------------|
| A. Military living and working on base (3A)    | 1,083                    | 0            |
| B. Military living and working off base (3B)   | 272                      | 0            |
| C. Civilians living and working off base (3BC) | 248                      | 0            |
| D. Non-base connected                          | 880                      | 880          |
| E. Total Enrollment                            | 2,483                    | 880          |
| F. Net Decrease                                |                          | (- 1,603)    |
| G. Percent Change                              |                          | (- 65%)      |

| II. FINANCIAL IMPACT (a)                                    |                |                                    |
|---|----------------|------------------------------------|
| A. Federal sources  | \$1,865,869.00 | \$291,156.00 (b)                   |
| B. State sources  | \$3,809,852.00 | \$909,852.00 (c)                   |
| C. Local taxes  | \$ 758,741.00  | \$758,741.00 (d)                   |
| D. Projected revenue decreases in state and federal sources |                | \$4,474,713.00                     |
| E. Percent change   |                | (-70%)                             |
| F. Other Costs<br>Unemployment Costs                        |                | -\$79,000 to \$1,000,000.00 yr (e) |

### III. PERSONNEL IMPACT

|                            |   |        |
|----------------------------|---|--------|
| A. Total District Staff    | 233   | 84     |
| B. Potential net jobs lost |   | (-149) |
| C. Percent change          |   | (-64%) |
| (a) Date Source:           | District's Annual Financial Report,<br>June 30, 1988, pp 25   |        |
| (b)                        | This amount reflects a loss of \$1,574,713.00 in federal Impact Aid, but does not reflect decreases in other federal programs, such as Chapter 1, 2, etc., due to enrollment decreases.                           |        |
| (c)                        | This amount reflects an approximate loss of \$2,900,000.00 in state sources. The projected ADA (3rd year) of 794 was used in the present state aid formula.   |        |
| (d)                        | These figures do not reflect potential lower local tax assessments due to base closure.   |        |
| (e)                        | This amount would vary depending upon direct reimbursement or 3.4% of gross salaries (first \$9,000) is used. Timing may be difficult to determine unless good communication is received from military personnel. |        |

### IV. SUMMARY

It is quite evident from the above statistics, that the closure of Chanute Air Force Base would have a profound effect on the Rantoul City Schools. The 880 students that are listed as non-base connected is actually believed to be less, due to a services impact decrease in the community, however, it is also not known how many civilians may stay in the area. Therefore, these two (2) figures were not changed. The district currently operates six (6) attendance centers for actual student instruction. One (1) other building is currently being utilized by the State Education Service Region. If the base is closed, the total building utilization could decrease from the present 6 schools to 2. Because of the obvious impact of these figures, we believe the commission report, which refers to a moderate impact, is incorrect. We sincerely request that the congress reevaluate the committee's proposed closures. We certainly endorse the concept of an efficiently operated defense department budget, however, we believe that with all sincerity that it should be based on a well-developed up-to-date study. We also feel the study should consider the total impact upon the area including such as price, unnecessary construction costs, local joint contracts between the village and Air Force and the quality of life in the Rantoul/Chanute area compared to the costs of attempting to create this same quality at other bases. We honestly feel that such a study would show the vital role that Chanute Air Force Base shows not only for the military but also for all of East Central Illinois.

## Comments Bolded

### Exhibit 1

1. If this scenario would come about, the district would be required to close four of the present six buildings over a period of time as the Air Force gradually phased out its operation. Due to the present federal and state funding formulas, the district would lose approximately 70% of its State and Federal resources. This would not take into account the potential loss in local taxes due to the lower tax assessment created by decreased property values. Some real estate sources have indicated property values could be lowered as much as 30% or more.

Comment noted. An Air Force prepared Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) on ree-use of Chanute AFB will address potential community impact of alternative land use scenarios.

2. It is obvious the approximate loss of 149 jobs would have significant impact upon the district and the community.

Same response as 1.

3. The entire Rantoul areas has a very high reputation for providing quality special education services. If this be the case, the impact on the quality of those special education programs being provided for students could be decreased in a very significant manner.

Same response as 1.

4. Not only will there be severe economic and potential program reductions as a result of the Chanute Air Force Base closure, it will also have a devastating impact upon the high morale, cooperative spirit and team work currently provided by the present staff.

Same response as 1.

5. The district currently operates six (6) attendance centers for actual student instruction. One (1) other building is currently being utilized by the State Education Service Region. If the base is closed, the total building utilization could decrease from the present 6 schools to 2.

Same response as 1.



## UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 5

130 SOUTH DEARBORN ST  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60604

APPROPRIATE TO THE ATTACHMENT

Exhibit 2

11 DEC 1989

Ms. Catherine Hitchins  
Department of the Air Force  
HQ ATC/OEW  
Building 661, Room 117  
Randolph Air Force Base, Texas 78150-5001

Dear Ms. Hitchins:

In accordance with our responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and Section 109 of the Clean Air Act, we have reviewed the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (Draft EIS) for the closure of Chanute Air Force Base, Rantoul, Champaign County, Illinois. The action includes the closure of Chanute Air Force Base and relocation of the mission and related support activities of the Chanute Technical Training Center to existing training centers at four Air Force bases. These bases include Sheppard AFB, Texas; Keesler AFB, Mississippi; Lowry AFB, Colorado; and Garfield AFB, Texas. No construction or demolition activities are planned as part of this action.

Two EIS's are being prepared for base closure activities. This first EIS assesses the impacts of closure of the base. The following issues are discussed in this first EIS: physical and economic impacts on the regional wastewater facility; impacts of hazardous waste sites; costs of environmental investigation; land use issues; surface water and groundwater impacts; removal and cleanup of buried fuel tanks; and removal and disposal of asbestos-containing materials (ACM) and polychlorinated biphenyls (PCB). The second EIS will assess the final disposition of the base's property (including potential reuse). The second EIS will focus on the socioeconomic impacts of the base closure. Separate NEPA documents will be prepared to assess the impacts of the relocation of the mission at the four receiving bases. Our comments regarding the information contained in this first EIS relate to the issues of hazardous waste site cleanup; removal of underground storage tanks and cleanup of any spilled or leaked product; removal and disposal of ACM's and PCB's; and the potential for degrading local water quality due to the problems associated with the continued operation of the wastewater treatment facility following the base closure. We are also concerned that the EIS process for this action may not provide an adequate assessment of potential reuse options.

As discussed in the Draft EIS, Chanute AFB now uses the City of Rantoul's publicly owned treatment works (POTW) for wastewater treatment. The closure of Chanute will result in the loss of approximately 30 percent of the average daily flow to the treatment facility. This loss will adversely

11 12 17 1989

11 12 17 1989

impact the operation of the in-plant pumping facilities, the clarifiers and packed towers, the piping systems, and the sludge handling facilities. In addition, Chanute AFB may not maintain the connection to the municipal wastewater treatment plant to accommodate the infiltration/inflow. If the connection to the wastewater treatment plant is not maintained, flooding may occur in basements and lowlying areas. While the Draft EIS points out these problems, it offers no solutions. The final EIS must address this issue and commit to implementing measures which will allow the POTW to continue operating properly.

The Draft EIS states that the Installation Restoration Program (IRP) is independent of closure and beyond the scope of this EIS. The IRP is only addressed to the extent that it is interrelated to closure actions and associated potential impacts. The final EIS and Record of Decision (ROD) for this project must include a commitment to the continued investigation of potential contamination and to appropriate cleanup of contaminated soils, surface water and groundwater. The following summarizes our concerns relative to hazardous waste sites. Our detailed concerns are contained in our most recent letter to the Remedial Investigation Report. Groundwater monitoring is being undertaken near seven sites. These seven sites include four landfills, two fire protection training areas, and the Building 932 tank sludge disposal pit. The sites are mostly contaminated by organic and inorganic contaminants, polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbons (PAH) and heavy metals. We have recommended that a biological assessment of the sediment at Salt Fork Creek be undertaken to determine if the benthic community and local fish population have been adversely impacted. Off-site sampling should also be undertaken to determine the extent of migration of the contamination. High concentrations of silver and PAH's have been detected in surface water and sediment samples in the vicinity of the Building 932 area. Discharges from the tank sludge disposal pit area should be diverted, or at least minimized, in order to protect the quality of the receiving water.

Given the potential for contamination problems, the contaminated groundwater radial flow, and the potential reversal flow at some of the sites, it must be determined whether contaminated groundwater from Chanute has infiltrated the City's sewer system and the POTW facility. If the City's system has become contaminated, then the Air Force must implement appropriate cleanup actions.

Page 1-18 of the Draft EIS indicates that the Air Force intends to continue operating its hazardous waste storage area as a treatment, storage and disposal (TSDF) facility, rather than go through a RCRA closure. The final EIS should indicate the reasons for the need to continue operating this hazardous waste storage area as a TSDF facility. Note that if the storage unit were closed under provisions of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA), the unit could be re-activated in the future as a generator (permitted to 40 CFR Part 262.14). As a generator, the base could accumulate waste for up to 90 days and then ship it off-site. No hazardous waste management permit would be required under these circumstances.

The Draft EIS states that 77 known UST's exist on the base, and an UST management plan will be developed. Note that all in-service UST's must be tested and all out-of-service UST's must be removed. The Air Force's developed management plan may not meet federal regulatory requirements. For

this reason, the Air Force is meeting with the State Fire Marshall (SFM) who operates the UST program in Illinois. Our Agency has already informed the SFM and Chanute AFB personnel that we will not grant any waivers to our regulations. Therefore, the proposed procedures for testing and removal must be modified to conform with federal regulations. Adequate cleanup must be provided for any contamination caused by leaking UST's.

The Draft EIS indicates that five active PCB (7500 ppm) transformers and two active PCB contaminated (50-500 ppm) transformers are located on the base. A total of 591 capacitors and transformers with unknown PCB content are also located on the base. The Draft EIS states that a survey will be conducted to test for PCB concentrations in October, 1989. Current Air Training Command plans call for Chanute AFB to be free of PCB's prior to transfer of the property. We recommend that the final EIS include the results of the PCB survey. The final EIS should also discuss the plans for proper cleanup and disposal. If PCB transformers are to be removed and disposed of, then several factors would be considered. A spill contingency plan should be formulated for the movement of this equipment. Because the gaskets of old transformers are sometimes prone to leakage, we also recommend that measures be taken to prevent leakage of PCB's due to such leaks. Such measures may include placing a pan underneath the transformer and securing it to the transformer by metal bands or wrapping the transformers in heavy plastic sheeting. Disposal of PCB transformers is regulated under 40 CFR Part 761.60. If storage of the PCB's are necessary prior to disposal, then you should refer to regulations contained in 40 CFR 761.65. The proper marking of the transport vehicle, containers, and transformers are regulated under 40 CFR Part 761.40. Recordkeeping procedures for the removal and disposal are regulated in 40 CFR 761.180. In case of an accident or spill, you should refer to 40 CFR 761.120 which includes the PCB spill cleanup policy. 40 CFR 761.125 also discusses requirements for PCB spill cleanup.

The Draft EIS indicates that the extent of asbestos on Chanute AFB is not currently known. An asbestos survey is planned for 1990, and it will be completed before disposal of the base. Note that Federal Regulations (40 CFR Part 41) require that the State and our Agency be notified prior to beginning any work in areas containing asbestos. These state regulations also discuss procedures which must be followed in the removal and disposal of asbestos-containing materials. We recommend that the Air Force evaluate the impacts of leaving asbestos in buildings which will not be demolished versus removing asbestos from those buildings.

The Air Force has mandated the Radon Assessment and Mitigation Program to determine radon levels in buildings on base. This program was developed to evaluate levels of radon exposure to military members and their dependents and to provide a means for mitigation, if necessary. Several buildings, including housing units, have been surveyed, and the results have indicated that further surveys should be conducted. A year-long survey is planned. The following documents, published by our Agency, may be useful when designing this study:

"Indoor Radon and Radon Decay Product Measurement Protocols"  
"Intense Protocols for Screening and Followup Radon and Radon Decay Product Measurements"  
"The National Radon Measurement Proficiency Program"

We will send you copies of these publications in a separate mailing.

The Draft EIS states on page 11 that a second EIS will be prepared to cover the final disposition of the base property (including potential reuse). Page 1-3 shows a listing of issues to be addressed in the second EIS. None of the issues listed include the potential reuse of the base property. Given this discrepancy, it is difficult to determine the Air Force's intentions in regard to assessing the impacts of reuse. The second EIS should assess the impacts of alternative future land uses of this property since some land uses may have much more significant adverse environmental impacts than other uses. In addition, the second EIS should determine whether the wastewater needs of the future use of this property can be adequately accommodated by the City's POTW.

Based on our review of the Draft EIS, we have rated this action "EC-2". The "EC" indicates that we have environmental concerns. The "2" indicates that more information must be provided. Our concerns will be resolved after the following actions are taken. A commitment must be made to implement measures to allow the POTW to continue operating properly. If the City's wastewater treatment system has become contaminated due to infiltration of contaminated groundwater from Chanute AFB, the Air Force must implement appropriate cleanup actions. The final EIS and ROD must include a commitment to the continued investigation of potential contamination from Chanute AFB and appropriate cleanup of contaminated soils, surface water and groundwater. Discharges from the tank sludge disposal pit area should be diverted, or at least minimized, in order to protect the quality of the receiving water. The proposed procedures for UST removal and testing must be modified to conform with Federal regulations. The final EIS should discuss plans for proper cleanup and disposal of PCB's. The final EIS should also evaluate the impacts of leaving asbestos in buildings which will not be demolished versus removing asbestos from those buildings. A commitment should be made to ensure that the second EIS will assess the impacts of alternative future land uses of the base property.

We appreciate this opportunity to provide comments on the Draft EIS for this action. If you have any questions about these comments, please contact Jerry Hout at (312) 896-4244.

Sincerely yours,

*William D. Frost*  
William D. Frost, Chief  
Department of Defense Branch  
Planning and Management Division

EPA Region V Letter.

6. **Commit to implementing measures which allow the POTW to continue operating properly**

The Air Force will participate in discussions on the POTW with the responsible agencies and is committed to aiding in a solution to POTW problems that result because of closure of Chanute.

7. **Proposed procedures for UST removal must be modified to conform with federal regulations.**

The Underground Storage Tank Management plan will conform to all applicable state and federal UST regulations. All active tanks will be leak-tested and upgraded prior to transfer. All inactive tanks will be removed. The Air Force will be in compliance with UST regulations.

8. **Final EIS must discuss plans for proper cleanup and disposal of PCBs.**

Results of the PCB survey show 52 PCB or PCB-contaminated devices. These devices will be remediated by the Air Force in accordance with applicable federal and state regulations.

9. **Final EIS should indicate need to continue operating the hazardous waste storage area as a TSD facility.**

Chanute AFB will close its interim status hazardous waste storage facility in accordance with its closure plan submitted to the EPA and state regulatory agencies.

10. **Final EIS should evaluate impact of leaving asbestos in buildings that are not to be demolished.**

No property will be transferred that has asbestos that constitutes an immediate health hazard. Any such property will have the asbestos which constitutes the hazard removed in accordance with federal and state regulations. Also if any facility is demolished, all hazardous materials, including asbestos, will be removed in accordance with applicable laws and regulations.

11. **A commitment should be made to ensure the second EIS assess impact of alternative future land uses.**

The second EIS will cover socio-economic impacts in conjunction with the impacts of the eventual reuse of the base.

12. **Commit to IRP.**

The IRP is independent of the closure of Chanute and will continue after the base closes.

Katy B. P. P. P.  
Mayor

## Exhibit 3

November 16, 1989

Gentlemen:

We have had less than 30 days to review this document and consider the elements therein that will affect the life and economy of this community for many years. Each representative here this evening has a very full work schedule and the short time frame for study of this important draft simply is not adequate. We should have had at least sixty days to study, and review the draft and to prepare for tonight's meeting.

This report was contracted and paid for by the Air Force - a fact made all too clear by even a brief glance at the draft report.

For the most part the report has concluded that there will be no negative environmental impact on the Village of Rantoul. That's like saying that Hugo had no negative environmental impact on Charleston. Both cases will involve extensive funding, clean-up, monitoring and rebuilding.

I am very much disturbed by information received earlier this week in the November 3 Congressional Record. The Environmental Restoration fund was appropriated \$601,100,000 instead of the \$900,800,000, or about \$1 billion originally approved by the House of Representatives.

The House-Senate conference which arrived at this figure believe that insofar as base closures are concerned this Environmental Restoration account should be utilized on a "worst case first" basis and that the Base Closure Act should provide funds for restoration. This includes reducing, removing, and recycling hazardous waste and removing unsafe buildings and debris at sites included in the Base Closure and Realignment Act.

What really bothers me is the statement in the Base Realignments and Closure Report by the Defense Secretary's Commission that "The cost of hazardous waste cleanup was not included, since such cleanup is currently required by law regardless of the base closure situation". Now, what agency pays for the environmental cleanup? And with what, particularly if Congress does not appropriate the funds?

We request that this issue be addressed fully in this EIS report. So far, the issue of funding has been brushed under the rug. This is not acceptable and too important to be brushed aside.

Again, I remind everyone, that Chanute AFB has been a welcome neighbor and the largest employer in Rantoul for almost 75 years. Our community and Chanute are contiguous with only a fence separating the communities.

We are not a suburb of any metropolitan area. There are 15 miles of farmland between us and Champaign-Urbana. We are, in effect, a geographical island situated in the heart of Central Illinois farmland.

The executive summary of this draft indicates that the short term impact of closure will even be beneficial.

Can you imagine 2,400 acres of empty buildings and grounds running wild? . . . . . and this in your community's front yard? Imagine White Hall . . . . . 10 acres of World War II vintage office space . . . . . laden with asbestos . . . . . can't be remodeled . . . . . can't be heated . . . . . can it be said that this doesn't have an adverse environmental impact.

We appreciated the fact that the Air Force sponsored a trip to five other formerly closed Air Force bases last July. We saw varying degrees of rebuilding and recovery at these bases.

By the way . . . . . all had active runways, the shortest being 11,000 ft. compared to closed 6,000 ft. runways at Chanute.

Even so, recovery, for the most part, came slowly. We saw buildings that could not be converted, torn down or disposed of, because of the horrendous cost of asbestos removal and disposal. A beautiful, large Greyhound manufacturing plant at Walker AFB . . . . . which came eight years after closure in 1967, stood adjacent to a large monster of a half-torn down building. It was pointed out that Greyhound wanted to dispose of or rebuild the building, but couldn't because of the high cost of asbestos removal. There are no plans to do anything now but to let it stand and blight the landscape.

We saw similar buildings at Bangor, Maine, closed in 1968.

Again, similar properties at Chanute make up our front yard. Again, I ask . . . . . how can it be concluded that asbestos left behind will have no environmental impact?

If Rantoul wanted to walk away from a building it no longer needed, we could be expected to be responsible and sell it or tear it down and dispose of it properly.

Other community representatives this evening will touch on specific concerns of this document, but I will note just a few here:

### Page 3-7 Chapman Courts

The draft sites a condition of which our community is well aware. There are 70 sub-standard units that are no longer maintained. These are separate from the base and located in the very heart of the community. We want the remainder torn down prior to . . . . . And . . . . . the buildings . . . . .

Since Chanute abandoned all its landfills some years ago all garbage and debris is taken to the Rantoul landfill. Our landfill has a life expectancy of some 6-7 years, not 12 years as referred to on page 3-18.

One other item, pages 4-9 and 4-10 refer to the second EIS which is to address socio-economic issues. Indications are that heavy emphasis will be given to expected reuse of the base.

I point out that we have learned in this process that the office of Economic Adjustment (OEA) is grossly underfunded. Citizens of the United States have been led to believe that a vast array of services and assistance is available from OEA, but these are simply not forthcoming. All assistance that is available also requires state and local funding matches.

I refer again to the confusion in Congress regarding Environmental Impact and Reuse funding. The money to get the job done is simply not available.

The cover sheet of this draft statement indicates that the only significant impact resulting from closure would be the reduction of wastewater flow to the Rantoul Regional Waste Water Treatment Plant. We are grateful that this important factor is acknowledged, but Rantoul cannot accept a document so biased in favor of the Federal Government that it indeed creates a gross miscarriage of justice upon the community of Rantoul.

### Exhibit 3

13. We should have had at least sixty days to study, and review the draft and to prepare for tonight's meeting.

Comment noted. The Air Force has been following applicable President's Council on Environmental Quality regulations during the process.

14. Now, what agency pays for the environmental cleanup? And with what, particularly if Congress does not appropriate the funds? We request that this issue be addressed fully in this EIS report.

The Air Force is responsible for the clean-up.

15. Can you imagine 2,400 acres of empty buildings and grounds running wild?..... and this in your community's front yard? Imagine White Hall ..... 10 acres of World War II vintage office space ..... laden with asbestos ..... can't be remodeled ..... can't be heated ..... can it be said that this doesn't have an adverse environmental impact.

The Air Force intends to dispose of the property at fair market value. To protect this investment a caretaker contract will be issued to maintain the base buildings and grounds. No property that constitutes an immediate health hazard will be transferred prior to the Air Force completing required cleanups.

16. Again, I ask..... how can it be concluded that asbestos left behind will be no environmental impact?

Asbestos building materials properly maintained do not constitute an environmental hazard.

17. There are 70 sub-standard units that are no longer maintained. We want the remainder torn down prior to base closure. And we want the buildings disposed of in some manner other than in the Rantoul landfill.

A minimal maintenance program has been instituted in the Chapman Courts area. After closure the caretaker contract will include maintenance of remaining houses in Chapman Courts. Same response as 13.

18. Since Chanute abandoned all its landfills some years ago all garbage and debris is taken to the Rantoul landfill. Our landfill has a life expectancy of some 6-7 years, not 12 years as referred to on page 3-18.

The change has been made in the draft EIS text page 3-18.

19. One other item, pages 4-9 and 4-10 refer to the second EIS which is to address socio-economic issues. Indications are that heavy emphasis will be given to expected reuse of the base.

A second EIS will be prepared to address the impacts of base reuse to include socio-economic issues affected by re-use.

20. I point out that we have learned in this process that the office of Economic Adjustment (OEA) is grossly underfunded.

Comment noted.

21. I refer again to the confusion in Congress regarding Environmental Impact and Reuse funding. The money to get the job done is simply not available.

Comment noted.

PUBLIC HEARING  
for  
DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT  
FOR THE CLOSURE OF CHANUTE AIR FORCE BASE

November 16, 1989

Public Hearing  
Draft Environmental Impact Statement  
Chanute Closure

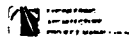
November 16, 1989

Exhibit 4

prepared by:

Sodemann and Associates, Inc.  
340 N. Neil St.  
Champaign, IL 61820  
(217) 352-7688

Sodemann and Associates, Inc.



Public Hearing  
Draft Environmental Impact Statement  
Chanute Closure

November 16, 1989

Introduction

My name is Michael R. Little. I am employed by Sodemann and Associates, Inc. and my title is Environmental Division Manager. I am a Registered Professional Engineer and a Registered Land Surveyor, licensed in the State of Illinois. I am here to present testimony on behalf of the Village of Rantoul, both as the Village's engineer and as a lifelong resident of the Village. My comments and questions are referenced to specific sections of the Environmental Impact Statement.

Groundwater

3.5.1 p.3-13 and 4.5.1 p.4-3 - The premise of the EIS appears to be that, with the closure of Chanute, there will be no further effects upon the groundwater resources of the area. In reality, the closure of Chanute will leave nine water wells tapped into the water supply of over 100,000 people, with no entry in responsible charge. These wells, and the potential for contamination from the hazardous waste sites on the base, pose a real threat to this water supply. Upon closure, who will be responsible for the safety of these nine well sites?

Hazardous Waste Storage

3.6.3 & 3.6.4 p.3-18 and 4.6.2 p.4-4 - Reference is made to a hazardous waste storage site which is apparently used to store hazardous wastes on either a temporary or permanent basis.

1. Where is this site located and what is its exact purpose?
2. What is the status of the EPA permits that has been applied for?
3. What is the status of the closure, post-closure plan, and what are the details of that plan?

Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCB)

3.6.6 p.3-19 and 4.6.4 p.4-7 - PCB contaminated transformers and capacitors are to be identified in a survey to be conducted in October, 1989. The Village of Rantoul hereby formally requests a copy of that survey.

1. Is the survey completed? If not, what is the specific date that this survey will be completed?
2. How will the contaminated capacitors and transformers be disposed of, and what schedule will be followed?
3. Are funds available to eliminate this hazard?
4. Are there any other areas which may have been contaminated by PCB containing fluids such as hydraulic oil?

3

Sodemann and Associates, Inc.



Public Hearing  
Draft Environmental Impact Statement  
Chanute Closure

November 16, 1989

Asbestos

3.6.7 p.3-19 and 4.6.5 p.4-7 - Reference is made to a survey to be made in 1990 to catalog all asbestos containing materials on the base. The Village of Rantoul hereby formally requests a copy of that survey.

1. What is the specific schedule for the completion of that survey?
2. What is the specific time frame for remediation of the hazardous asbestos that is found in the survey?
3. Are funds available to complete this work?
4. What is the potential environmental risk of asbestos laden buildings that are left to deteriorate and decay? This issue should be addressed now and not considered part of the reuse EIS, since many of the older buildings have no market value and will be left unused forever!

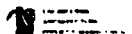
Underground Storage Tanks

3.6.8 p.3-19 and 4.6.6 p.4-7 - Reference is made to a management plan for the 77 known underground storage tanks (USTs).

1. What is the timetable for completion of this plan?
2. Is funding available to test, upgrade and/or replace these tanks?
3. Is funding available to remediate any contamination that is found due to leaking tanks?
4. The statement is made that "Abandoned USTs, those no longer in service, are generally programmed for removal in conjunction with the IRP or other O&M Air Force programs. What is meant by "generally"? What is the timetable for these other programs?

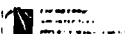
6

Sodemann and Associates, Inc.



2

Sodemann and Associates, Inc.



November 16, 1989

#### Oil/Water Separators

3.6.9 p.3-20 and 4.6.7 p.4-7 - Several of the oil/water separators now in operation on the base are receiving surface water runoff from areas contaminated with fuels. One is in the 900 Area, at the bulk fuel training site and one is at the fire school.

1. If these units are to be taken from service, what is the schedule for decontaminating the sites they serve?
2. If they are to remain in service, who will operate them?

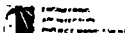
#### Radon

3.6.9 p.3-20 and 4.6.7 p.4-7 - Reference is made to a year-long radon survey. The Village hereby requests a copy of this survey report.

1. What is the timetable for completion of this survey?
2. Is funding available to conduct this survey?
3. Is funding available to remediate any problems revealed?

8

Sodemann and Associates, Inc.



November 16, 1989

#### Installation Restoration Program (IRP)

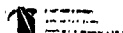
3.7 p.3-20 and 4.7 p.4-7. The following comments and questions apply to all 7 sites and all abandoned underground storage tanks identified in paragraph 3.7.2 Site Descriptions.

1. What is the time line for completion and mediation of the IRP Program at Chanute A.F.B.
2. Is funding available to complete this program?
3. Within this overall program, how will priorities be established to determine which bases receive funding first?
4. Will a closed facility such as Chanute receive the same consideration as an operating base?

p.3-29 Underground Storage Tanks and Abandoned Fuel Lines - Reference is made to five abandoned tanks that won't be removed due to congested piping. This is not an acceptable solution. Without proper abandonment, these tanks are, or will eventually become, a hazard and a liability. If any leakage or spills have occurred at these tanks, the only means of removing any soil contamination around the tank is by removing it.

10

Sodemann and Associates, Inc.



November 16, 1989

#### General Comments and Questions

IRP - The Village of Ransom hereby requests copies of all monitoring reports from sampling of the existing monitoring wells, copies of all future reports from on-going phases of the work and written replies to the previous questions concerning the completion dates for these programs.

Environment - The assessment of effects upon air, groundwater and surface water seems to assume that someone will maintain the on-base facilities after closure. What will be the impact if no one maintains the buildings and infrastructure? Building deterioration will cause the potential release of asbestos to the air. Lack of maintenance of the sewer systems will result in rapid deterioration of buildings and flooding of streets. No maintenance of grounds will result in the potential for the unchecked growth of noxious weeds and plants, which can result in legal action under State laws. In addition the resulting overgrowth, due to the lack of maintenance personnel, will definitely negatively impact the visual and aesthetic values of the property.

Building Maintenance - How will the deterioration of unusable buildings and housing units impact the environment and the community in general? Certainly these natural and physical effects will have dramatic socioeconomic effects on the community at large.

Water System - The on-base potable water system is cross-connected to the Village of Ransom system. The on-base system must be properly maintained and operated on a continuous basis. If it is to be a viable system in the reuse scheme. However, if provisions aren't made to properly operate and maintain the on-base system, it must be physically separated from the Village system, to comply with the cross-connection provisions of the Village's ordinances.

Central Heating Plant - Most of the on-base buildings, except for the housing units, are heated by steam supplied by the central heating plant. Now that plans have been dropped to replace the facility, it must remain in continuous operation indefinitely, if reuse is a viable consideration. Without heat, these buildings would rapidly deteriorate in this climate. Due to the age and condition of this facility can it be expected to safely meet these needs? Is this facility currently in compliance with health, safety and emission standards and can it meet future standards?

Reuse EIS - What weight does the "Reuse EIS" carry with it? Is the Department of Defense liable for environmental impacts that may be discovered as that study is conducted? Is funding available to mediate problems at that stage of the closure process?

11

Sodemann and Associates, Inc.



November 16, 1989

#### Summary and Conclusion

The conclusion of the Closure EIS is that the short term impacts to the environment will be beneficial. In fact, the closure of Chanute will result in the abandonment of 7 hazardous waste sites, numerous other environmental hazards and hundreds of empty buildings. How can this be construed as beneficial? The Closure EIS must consider the real, long-term, environmental hazards, which will be left behind in the form of: 1) useless buildings with prohibitive costs to demolish due to asbestos contamination and 2) waste dumps, whose contents haven't even been catalogued, which aren't considered a problem because they aren't leaking yet. As the Mayor has previously stated, White Hall is a perfect example. Does the Department of Defense really think that someone else will take responsibility for this monstrosity?

If this Closure EIS is to be anything more than a whitewash to meet the letter of the law, then it must ask, and answer, the hard questions, not just the easy ones.

12

Sodemann and Associates, Inc.



**Exhibit 4 cont.**

22. The assessment of effects upon air, groundwater and surface water seems to assume that someone will maintain the on-base facilities after closure. What will be the impacts if no one maintains the buildings and infrastructure? Building deterioration will cause the potential release of asbestos to the air.

The Air Force intends to dispose of Chanute property at a fair market value. The base will be maintained by a caretaker contract after closure to prevent undue deterioration of these assets.

23. Lack of maintenance of the sewer systems will result in rapid deterioration of buildings and flood of streets.

Same response as 22.

24. No maintenance of grounds will result in the potential for the unchecked growth of noxious weeds and plants, which can result in legal action under State laws. In addition the resulting overgrowth, due to the lack of maintenance personnel, will definitely negatively impact the visual and aesthetic values of the property.

Same response as 22.

25. How will the deterioration of unusable buildings and housing units impact the environment and the community in general? Certainly these natural and physical effects will have dramatic socioeconomic effects of the community at large.

Same response as 22.

26. The on-base potable water system is cross-connected to the Village of Rantoul system. The on-base system must be properly maintained and operated on a continuous bases, it is is to be a viable system in the reuse scheme. However, if provisions aren't made to properly operate and maintain the on-base system, it must be physically separated from the Village's ordinances.

The water system will be maintained by the caretaker contractor and kept in operating order. Some wells may be taken out of operation, but this will be done in a way that protects the water supply and will meet all applicable federal and state regulations.

**Exhibit 4 cont.**

27. Most of the on-base buildings, except for the housing units, are heated by steam supplied by the central heating plant. How that plans have been dropped to replace this facility, it must remain in continuous operation indefinitely, if reuse is a viable consideration. Without heating, these buildings would rapidly deteriorate in this climate. Due to the age and poor condition of this facility can it be expected to safely meet these needs? Is this facility currently in compliance with health, safety and emission standards and can it meet future standards?

See response 22.

28. What weight does the "Reuse EIS" carry with it? Is the Department of defense liable for environmental impacts that may be discovered as that study is conducted? Is funding available to mediate problems at that stage of the closure process?

The reuse EIS will address socio-economic impacts in conjunction with impacts of eventual reuse. Funding will be obtained to cleanup any facility that is a hazard to public health prior to transfer of that facility at any time in the process.

29. In fact, the closure of Chanute will result in the abandonment of 7 hazardous waste sites, numerous other environmental hazards and hundreds of empty buildings. How can this be construed as beneficial? The Closure EIS must consider the real, long-term, environmental hazards, which will be left behind in the form of: 1) useless buildings and prohibitive costs to demolish due to asbestos contamination and 2) waste dumps, whose contents haven't even been catalogued, which aren't considered a problem because they aren't leaking yet.

The IRP is independent of the closure of Chanute Air Force Base and will continue after the base closes. The caretaker contract will maintain facilities until reuse. This maintenance will prevent undue deterioration of buildings and possible release of asbestos or other hazardous materials. If the ultimate decision is to demolish facilities, such as Chapman Courts, hazardous materials will be removed in accordance with federal and state regulations prior to demolition.

30. White Hall is a perfect example. Does the Department of Defense really think that someone else will take responsibility for this monstrosity?

Same response as 1.

**Exhibit 4 cont.**

31. The premise of the EIS appears to be that, with the closure of Chanute, there will be no further effects upon the groundwater resources of the area. In reality, the closure of Chanute will leave nine water wells tapped into the water supply of over 100,000 people, with no entity in responsible charge. These wells, and the potential for contamination from the hazardous waste sites on the base, pose a real threat to this water supply. Upon closure, who will be responsible for the safety of these nine well sites?

Same response as 26.

32. Reference is made to a hazardous waste storage site, which is apparently used to store hazardous wastes on either a temporary or permanent basis. 1) Where is this site located and what is its exact purpose? 2) What is the status of the EPA permit that has been applied for? 3) What is the status of the closure, post-closure plan, and what are the details of that plan?

The Hazardous Waste Storage facility (HWSF) is located in the test cells in the southeast portion of the base. (see figure 3.6) These concrete structures store the hazardous waste until such a time that it is documented then transported to a hazardous waste disposal facility. Currently the Facility operates under State of Illinois Part B permit (IL1570024157). This permit is in the process of renewal.

The closure plan identifies all steps that will be necessary to partially close the HWSF at any point during its intended operating life, and to completely close the HWSF at the end of its operating life. The closure plan is designed to ensure that the Facility will not require further maintenance and controls after closure. The plan is intended to minimize and eliminate threats to human health and the environment upon completion of closure.

A post-closure plan will not be needed because this permit only addresses a storage facility. All wastes will be removed and the storage areas will be decontaminated at closure.

33. PCB contaminated transformers and capacitors are to be identified in a survey to be conducted in October, 1989. The Village of Rantoul hereby formally requests a copy of that survey. 1) Is the survey completed? If not, what is the specific date that this survey will be completed? 2) How will the contaminated capacitors and transformers be disposed of, and what schedule will be followed? 3) Are funds available to eliminate this hazard? 4) Are there any other areas which may have been contaminated by PCB containing fluids such as hydraulic oil?

A copy of the survey will be provided. The PCB survey has been completed and Chanute AFB has 52 devices that are PCB or PCB - contaminated. These devices will be removed or otherwise made non-PCB in accordance with applicable regulations. This cleanup will be funded by the Air Force.

## Exhibit 4 cont.

34. Reference is made to a survey to be made in 1990 to catalog all asbestos containing materials on the base. The Village of Rantoul hereby formally requests a copy of that survey. 1) What is the specific schedule for the completion of that survey? 2) What is the specific time frame for remediation of the hazardous asbestos that is found in the survey? 3) Are funds available to complete this work? 4) What is the potential environmental risk of asbestos laden buildings that are left to deteriorate and decay? This issue should be addressed now and not considered part of the reuse EIS, since many of the older buildings have no market value and will be left unused forever!

The asbestos survey is funded and will begin in January 1990. Results should be obtained by August 1990 and will be available to all interested parties. The caretaker contract will maintain facilities to prevent deterioration and possible release of hazardous materials. All hazardous materials that pose a health threat will be removed prior to transfer.

35. Reference is made to a management plan for the 77 known underground storage tanks (USTs). 1) What is the timetable for completion of this plan? 2) Is funding available to test, upgrade and/or replace these tanks? 3) Is funding available to remediate any contamination that is found due to leaking tanks? 4) The statement is made that "Abandoned USTs, those no longer in service, are generally programmed for removal in conjunction with the IRP or other O&M Air Force programs". What is meant by "generally"? What is the timetable for these other programs?

The Underground Storage Tank Management Plan will be completed by April 1990. The plan includes an inventory of tanks on base, their construction and capacity. The plan will include recommendations on whether the USTs are required for current operations. The underground storage tank testing is funded. All active tanks will be leak tested to make sure they are not leaking contaminants into the surrounding soil. There are currently 29 abandoned USTs that are to be removed.

36. Several of the oil/water separators now in operation on the base are receiving surface water run-off from areas contaminated with fuels. One is in the 900 Area, at the bulk fuel training site and one is at the fire school. 1) If these units are to be taken from service, what is the schedule for decontaminating the sites they serve? 2) If they are to remain in service, who will operate them?

Any oil/water separator that needs to be maintained after the base closes will be under the caretaker maintenance program. The decontamination of the oil/water separators will be done according to state and federal EPA requirements.

**Exhibit 4 cont.**

37. Reference is made to a year-long radon survey. The Village hereby requests a copy of this survey report. 1) What is the timetable for completion of this survey? 2) Is funding available to conduct this survey? 3) Is funding available to remediate any problems revealed?

The Radon survey is funded. The Radon survey will begin this winter. The data collection will require 12 months and the analysis will take three to four months. The results should be available in March or April 1991. Remediation requirements will need to be addressed at that time.

38. The following comments and questions apply to all 7 sites and all abandoned underground storage tanks identified in paragraph 3.7.2 Site Descriptions. 1) What is the time line for completion and mediation of the IRP Program at Chanute A.F.B. 2) Is funding available to complete this program? 3) Within this overall program, how will priorities be established to determine which bases receive funding first? 4) Will a closed facility such as Chanute receive the same consideration as an operating base?

The IRP will continue to be an active program at Chanute AFB until all of the sites have been thoroughly investigated. Investigation results will be studied to determine locations where remedial actions (cleanups) are needed. Feasibility studies will be done to determine the most appropriate remedial action and then the remedial action will be carried out. When remedial actions are complete, the Air Force will monitor the sites as necessary to assure the effectiveness of the remedial action. In some cases, long-term monitoring from 5 to as many as 30 year may be needed. All of the work accomplished by the IRP is coordinated with both Illinois State EPA and US EPA, Region V. Chanute AFB will receive the same consideration for funding as an active installation based on a worst first analysis.

39. Reference is made to five abandoned tanks that won't be removed due to congested piping. This is not an acceptable solution. Without proper abandonment, these tanks are, or will eventually become, a hazard and a liability. If any leakage or spills have occurred at these tanks are, or will eventually become, a hazard and a liability. If any leakage or spills have occurred at these tanks, the only means of removing any soil contamination around the tank is by removing it.

Currently a funded project is underway to modify existing tanks so the products in two of the tanks can be removed. This will allow the removal of all five tanks at once. The removal should occur in 1990.

40. The Village of Rantoul hereby requests copies of all monitoring reports from sampling of the existing monitoring wells, copies of all future reports from on-going phases of the work and written replies to the previous questions concerning the completion dates for these programs.

Any studies, surveys, or reports that were requested at the public hearing will be made available specifically to the person or agency that made the request. Air Force environmental programs are open to public review.

**REGIONAL OFFICE OF EDUCATION  
CHAMPAIGN-FORD COUNTIES**

Box 919  
Rantoul, Illinois 61866  
Phone (217) 995-1210 Toll Free Long Distance 1-800-450-1100

CHARLES N. SUTTON, Superintendent

Mr. 17  
[redacted], 1989

**ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT HEARING**

Recent federal decisions about Chanute Air Force Base have created major concerns about the impact of the base closing on several of the school districts in this geographic area. These federal decisions have also created an extremely short time frame to analyze the financial and educational impact on these students, teachers, schools, and districts. The initial research clearly indicates that numerous teaching positions will be eliminated in a number of districts and the financial base which supports our school districts will be drastically reduced.

In the two largest districts, approximately 130 teaching, guidance, library, and administrative personnel will be released from their contracts in the next 1 - 3 years. Since these districts have also experienced the normal declining enrollment pattern that most of our Illinois schools have been experiencing during the last decade, the faculties in these districts are experienced and senior members of our profession. Unfortunately this will result in many teachers being released with more than 15 years of teaching experience in their home districts and in Illinois. In fact, nearly 30 teachers of this total 150 teacher size group may be in this category. The probability of these teachers finding new teaching positions in our Illinois schools will be difficult.

The school district financial base will be negatively impacted and threatened in this immediate area. The circumstances of Chanute closing will also reduce the

market value of all residential real estate in this immediate region comprised of Rantoul and the surrounding communities. The school district assessed value tax base will seriously decline. The state aid formula, after the 3 year averaging factor has been consumed, will result in extraordinary low levels of state aid for these districts. Within the next 6 - 8 years, significant increases in local property taxes will be needed for these schools. If Chanute closes additional state assistance and federal assistance will be required. It seems clear that state and federal legislation may be required to assist these schools in this process.

The Federal Government, the U. S. Congress and the United States Air Force have long been committed to providing quality educational programs. This commitment also exists at the local school district level in this geographic area.

Our local communities have demonstrated their commitment by providing the necessary tax revenue to support our local school districts. The negative and drastic impact of Chanute closing on the students and staff members in our local communities ~~can not be allowed to happen~~ <sup>will be minimized</sup>.

I have attached a copy of the student enrollment impact of Chanute closing on ten of our local school districts. A summary of that data indicates a potential loss of 2400 of the 6100 students, or 40%, enrolled in those ten school districts.

I respectfully request your consideration in regard to this crisis. We are proud of our schools and do not want to see them destroyed by a Congressional decision based on inaccurate information.

Submitted by:  
Charles N. Sutton  
Regional Superintendent

**ELEMENTARY/SECONDARY ENROLLMENT IMPACT DIRECTLY RELATED  
TO THE CLOSURE OF  
CHANUTE AIR FORCE BASE, ILLINOIS**

| <u>School District</u> | <u>Student Enrollment</u> | <u>Students with Military Parents</u> | <u>Students with Civilian Parents</u> | <u>Total Losses</u> | <u>% Decl</u> |
|------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------|
| Rantoul City Sch.      | 2483                      | 1355                                  | 248                                   | 1603                | 65%           |
| Rantoul High Sch.      | 990                       | 249                                   | 176                                   | 425                 | 43%           |
| St. Malachy's Sch.     | 180                       | 42                                    | 18                                    | 60                  | 33%           |
| Buckley-Loda Sch.      | 240                       | 14                                    | 30                                    | 44                  | 18%           |
| Thomasboro Sch. Dist.  | 283                       | 24                                    | 20                                    | 44                  | 16%           |
| Ludlow Sch. Dist.      | 136                       | 15                                    | 6                                     | 21                  | 15%           |
| Fisher Sch. Dist.      | 526                       | 21                                    | 11                                    | 32                  | 6%            |
| <b>*Totals</b>         | <b>4838</b>               | <b>1720</b>                           | <b>509</b>                            | <b>2229</b>         | <b>46%</b>    |

(See Additions below)

Data was not available from schools in Armstrong, Potomac, Paxton and Prairieview when this report was created on January 6, 1989. These communities are a few miles from Rantoul and Chanute and will receive a smaller negative impact.

This reduction of 46% in these schools will result in a teacher/counselor/administrative support personnel reduction of 150 certified personnel, including our 145 teaching positions. The senior status of these faculties in the two Rantoul districts will mean that teachers with 16-22 years of experience will be released within the next three years.

\*Best time table available as of this date, Jan. 6, 1989

|                          |             |           |            |            |            |
|--------------------------|-------------|-----------|------------|------------|------------|
| ** Paxton Unit Dist.     | 1081        | 71        | 104        | 175        | 16%        |
| ** Gifford Grade Sch.    | 161         | 8         | 14         | 22         | 14%        |
| ** Pentfield Grade       | 81          | 5         | --         | 5          | 6%         |
| <b>** Revised Totals</b> | <b>1323</b> | <b>84</b> | <b>118</b> | <b>202</b> | <b>15%</b> |
| <b>(271785)</b>          |             |           |            |            |            |

This statistical report was released by Mr. Charles Sutton, Regional Superintendent of Schools for Ford and Champaign Counties in Illinois on Friday, January 6, 1989.

# Rantoul City Schools

District 137  
Champaign County  
DAVID D. GLISSON, Superintendent  
408 East Walsh Avenue  
Rantoul, Illinois 61855

November 16, 1989

Ms. Catherine Hitchins  
HQ ATC/DEEV  
Building 661, Room 117  
Randolph AFB, Texas 78150-5001

Dear Ms. Hitchins,

I would first like to express my appreciation for the opportunity to give input to the Air Training Command pertaining to the environmental impact statement. I am JoLeen Flack, Vice President of the Board of Education of Rantoul City Schools, District No. 137. On behalf of our Board, staff and students, I would like to suggest that it is very difficult to separate the environmental impact from socioeconomic as far as our schools are concerned. In terms of overall impact, our elementary school system will be devastated in comparison to what it is today. We project that 4 additional schools will be closed out of the remaining 6. It is obvious this will have enormous socioeconomic impact as well as environmental with 4 - 5 empty buildings.

Since this is an Environmental Impact Hearing, I would like to limit my comments to 2 areas that either have already been mentioned or will be mentioned by other individuals. Our school district will be faced with a decision of whether or not to keep utilities turned on and provide constant maintenance of water and sewer systems in each building or turn them off. We question whether the district will be able to afford the utility costs, due to a projected financial loss of 70%. The impact of decreasing the operation of 4 schools on our current sewage and water treatment plant that the Village of Rantoul and Chanute have jointly developed, along with the Air Force not participating at the same level, is of grave concern. We are concerned because we do not feel this type of information was considered in the original study. If closure must become a reality, we feel very strongly the Air Force has an obligation to continue to participate in the waste water treatment plant and some type of assistance to the local school systems to help maintain the maintenance and operation of empty buildings. The current projected assistance from Section 3e under the Impact Aid Law will last only three years once the district experiences a decrease of 10% or more in any one year. That year will constitute the base funding year. Other communities that have experienced reuse and development, suggest that it takes a minimum of 10 years and sometimes 20 years before full redevelopment can occur. If this is the case and the district is unable to afford the operation and maintenance of utilities, water, sewage systems, etc., it could mean total renovation or reconstruction for a school building to properly meet existing Illinois codes. We feel there is a moral obligation on the part of the Department of

Defense to assist our schools over a long period of time with this problem rather than suggest diminished 3e funding under Impact Aid.

The other area of concern is associated with the problem of asbestos contained in base facilities. It is my understanding the Air Force does meet current regulations and does provide a suitable environment for its people concerning the asbestos issue. However, we are very concerned that if current facilities do not meet necessary facility requirements for incoming industry, then renovation will need to occur. Once the current asbestos is disturbed by renovation, it will be necessary for expensive abatement requirements. Obviously if renovation is necessary, current facilities could be a big deterrent to industry unless reductions are experienced in purchase costs. Again, the fact that these cost estimates were not taken into account in considering fair market value, has skewed in our opinion the original cost estimates and closure decision. We assume that some current facilities will meet industry demands and as long as current asbestos is maintained, then abatement would not be necessary. We still feel that a very detailed cost analysis should be made concerning environmental impact as well as socioeconomic. It is very difficult to understand why these studies were not done prior to the base closure decision.

In connection with the asbestos issue, some of our schools contain asbestos tile. In the event that the district cannot afford to keep utilities and water -- sewage systems in proper maintenance over a period of time, there is a very real possibility that the tile will come loose due to extreme weather conditions with utilities turned off. If this were to happen, and the buildings would be needed for reuse if and when the base is redeveloped, there would be extensive renovation and/or reconstruction costs -- due to asbestos abatement. The impact on the environment with the facilities in this condition would also be very undesirable. Again, we believe there is a moral obligation for the Department of Defense to assist the schools in maintaining these buildings until redevelopment occurs. I appreciate the opportunity to give input to the panel and I have copies of these comments, along with other information that we would like to leave for your official records.

Thank you for your interest and consideration.

Sincerely,

*JoLeen M. Flack*

JF:na  
Encl.

JoLeen Flack, Vice President  
Board of Education  
Rantoul City Schools, #137  
Rantoul, IL

41. Recent federal decisions about Chanute Air Force Base have created major concerns about the impact of the base closing on several of the school districts in this geographic area. These federal decisions have also created an extremely short time frame to analyze the financial and educational impact on these students, teachers, schools and districts. The initial research clearly indicates that numerous teaching positions will be eliminated in a number of districts and the financial base which supports our school districts will be drastically reduced.

Same response as 1.

**Exhibit 6**

42. We project that 4 additional schools will be closed out of the remaining 6. It is obvious this will have enormous socioeconomic impact as well as environmental with 4 - 5 empty buildings.

Same response as 1.

43. Our school district will be faced with a decision of whether or not to keep utilities turned on and provide constant maintenance of water and sewer systems in each building or turn them off.

Same response as 1.

44. We question whether the district will be able to afford the utility costs, due to a projected financial loss of 70%.

Same response as 1.

45. The other area of concern is associated with the problem of asbestos contained in base facilities.

Air Force policy is that there will not be a transfer of any property with asbestos that constitutes immediate health hazard.

46. We still feel that a very detailed cost analysis should be made concerning environmental impact as well as socioeconomic.

Same as response 1.

47. In connection with the asbestos issue, some of our schools contain asbestos tile. In the event that the district cannot afford to keep utilities and water -- sewage system in proper maintenance over a period of time, there is a very real possibility that the tile will come loose due to extreme weather conditions with utilities turned off.

Same response as 1.

## Exhibit 7

Good Evening. My name is Ken Neath. I am the Director of Student Services at Kantoul Township High School. My comments are presented on behalf of our 975 students, our staff, our Board of Education and our community. Please let me read the following definition.

Environment (n) 1: the circumstances, objects, or conditions by which one is surrounded; 2: the aggregate of social and cultural conditions that influence the life of an individual or community.

The Department of Defense through the Air Force has decided that this public gathering should be called an "Environmental Impact Meeting".

I can understand the terminology "environmental impact" both in the abstract and in the solid clarity of real world applications as evidenced by the definition taken from Mr. Webster's dictionary. However, I cannot understand "doublespeak" and "militaryese" which limits a study of environmental impact to things or conditions and excludes the people factor.

The discussion of hazardous waste, asbestos and other potentially dangerous conditions present on the base is important and probably should have been addressed at a much earlier date. But the discussion of environmental impact must be expanded to include the devastating effect of

a base closure on the people of this community in general and more specifically - the students and teachers in our school system.

There are thirteen school districts in the area that will be affected by the closure of Chanuce. We anticipate a loss of:

2431 students (39%)

145 teaching positions

40 educational support personnel

\$1.7 million federal income

\$3.6 million state income

Taken separately any one of these losses could be termed traumatic, if not catastrophic. Each one of these losses creates a "ripple effect" far beyond the immediate harm. Of the 145 teachers who will lose their jobs 73 will be virtually un-employable in their chosen profession because of their length of service. These teachers will have to either move out of state or re-train for another profession. In either instance the Kantoul area is a loser.

One can only conclude that the environmental impact goes far beyond PCB, asbestos and unused gas tanks. In my opinion the Department of Defense

and the Air Force would be negligent to limit the consideration of environmental impact to things and exclude people. I realize that there will be a future hearing to focus on these "socio-economic" factors. Please tell us why the people in this community and the students are the last element to be considered when it is too late to do so.

48. The discussion of hazardous waste, asbestos and other potentially dangerous conditions present on the base is important and probably should have been addressed at a much earlier date.

Comment noted

49. But the discussion of environmental impact must be expanded to include the devastating effect of a base closure on the people of this community in general and more specifically - the students and teachers in our school system.

Same response as 1.

50. Please tell us why the people in this community and our students are the last element to be considered when it is too late to impact any real decision.

Closure of Chanute AFB was not on Air Force decision. Comment noted.

WILLIAMSON  
Arthur F. Bartell  
  
TOWNSHIP CLERK  
Kenneth Modglin  
  
ROAD COMMISSIONER  
Kenneth Schmidt

## RANTOUL TOWNSHIP

107 S. GARRARD ST.  
RANTOUL, ILLINOIS

TRUSTEES  
Elmo C. Albers  
Dale M. Franzen  
Kenneth Minnich  
John M. (Jack) Jones

**Exhibit 8**

November 2, 1989

Mayor Katy Podagrosi  
Village of Rantoul  
333 S. Tanner St.,  
Rantoul, Illinois 61866

Subject: Draft Environmental Impact  
Statement for the Closure of  
Chanute Air Force Base

Dear Katy:

We are in receipt of the above mentioned Environmental  
Impact Statement issued in September 1989, by the U.S.  
Air Force.

In reviewing this report with a long time employee of  
the Air Force, stationed at Chanute for a number of years,  
we were unable to identify a landfill that was used ex-  
tensively during 1950-1960 within the report.

This landfill is located in the far southeast corner of  
of the Chanute area, immediately east and south of the  
Test Cells located in that area of the Base. It appears  
that this landfill might contain much of everything used  
in operating aircraft, etc., much of which may now have  
decayed, etc.

Perhaps you are already aware of this and it may not be  
important at this stage, but I thought I would pass this  
information along to you in event it should be brought  
to someone's attention.

Sincerely,

*Art*  
Arthur F. Bartell

cc: Frank Elliott

**Exhibit 9**

### STATEMENT OF CONGRESSMAN ED MADIGAN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT REVIEW MEETING NOVEMBER 16, 1989

As you review this initial environmental impact  
statement regarding Chanute, I believe you will find that the  
estimated costs are low and that the figures used in this  
report are in need of local assistance to provide more  
current information. Unfortunately, as you will note, there  
are many aspects of cleanup that remain unidentified with  
unknown costs.

The House and Senate conference agreement on this year's  
Defense Department appropriations bill clearly states that  
DERA -- the Defense Environmental Restoration Account, will  
not be a source of funds for cleaning up those bases that  
have been proposed for closure. Cleanup funds will be  
allegedly provided under the Base Closure Account and  
available on a worst case first basis. The Base Closure  
Account is supposed to provide funds for environmental  
restoration including reducing, removing and recycling  
hazardous wastes and removing unsafe buildings and debris.

As you all know, closing Chanute Air Force Base is not  
going to save any money. I do not believe the Base Closure  
Account is ever going to be self-sustaining.

Last spring when I testified before the House Armed  
Services Committee Environmental Restoration Panel, I  
detailed the many environmental problems existing at Chanute  
which would need to be cleaned up and would be very expensive  
to clean up. General Accounting Office representatives took  
this testimony to Air Force officials who stated they had no  
idea there was this kind of cleanup to be done at Chanute.  
Obviously, it is to your benefit to very carefully review  
this initial EIS and to provide further information and cite  
local concerns overlooked in this particular document.

The legislative battle to keep Chanute open has been  
extraordinarily difficult because of the narrow way the Base  
Closure law was written. The law, which I opposed, does not  
include a provision to correct mistakes. Clearly a mistake  
was made regarding Chanute. It does not meet the criteria  
and should not be on any closure list. I will continue my  
efforts with the Federal and Illinois Environmental  
Protection Agencies to identify federal and state cleanup  
requirements and cost estimates. You may be assured that I  
remain committed to the fight, both in the Congress and in  
the courts.

51. We were unable to identify a landfill that was used extensively during 1950-1960 within the report. This landfill is located in the far southeast corner of the Chanute area, immediately east and south of the Test Cells located in that areas of the Base. It appears that this landfill might contain much of everything used in operating aircraft, etc., much of which may now have decayed, etc.

The Installation Restoration Program process included interviews with base personnel, (both past and present) familiar with past waste disposal practices. The process also included file searches, interviews with state and federal agencies, and field and aerial surveys were conducted at suspected past hazardous waste activity sites. All landfill sites identified by this process are currently under investigation under the Installation Restoration Program, including Landfill #4 in the area described.

**Exhibit 9**

52. I believe you will find that the estimated costs are low and that the figures used in this report are in need of local assistance to provide more current information. Unfortunately, as you will note, there are many aspects of cleanup that remain unidentified with unknown costs.

The Air Force will cleanup buildings, grounds, and any contaminated sites that constitute a health hazard in compliance with federal and state regulations. Funding for this required cleanup will be provided. It is in the best interest of the Air Force to have quick and appropriate cleanup of any contaminated site. Local assistance to identify contaminated areas would be appreciated.

53. The Base Closure Account is supposed to provide funds for environmental restoration including reducing, removing and recycling hazardous wastes and removing unsafe buildings and debris.

Funding for required cleanups will be provided by a variety of accounts.



Illinois Environmental Protection Agency · P.O. Box 19274, Springfield, IL 62704-9274

217/782-3397

Exhibit 10

November 16, 1989

Mayor Katy Podagrosi  
333 South Tanner  
Post Office Box 38  
Rantoul, Illinois 61866

Dear Mayor Podagrosi:

The IEPA staff member who is present this evening is acting as an observer, so please consider this letter our statement for the hearing on the first Environmental Impact Statement on Chanute Air Force Base.

We appreciate the concerns and the serious nature of the pending action at Chanute Air Force Base by the Department of Defense.

Illinois EPA has reviewed the September, 1989, Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Closure of Chanute Air Force Base and recognizes that little information is provided on the disposition of the property and the remediation of the associated environmental problems. However, according to the Executive Summary of the September DEIS, these issues will be addressed in depth in a second draft Environmental Impact Statement that is in preparation.

Illinois EPA has requested that the Agency be kept abreast of the progress of development of the data to be used in the second document as well as the status of the document preparation. We will rigorously review the contents and the conclusions and will comment appropriately when this next draft EIS becomes available.

Sincerely,

*Delbert D. Haschemeyer*  
Delbert D. Haschemeyer  
Deputy Director

DDH:RD/8-030

COMMENT SHEET

CHANUTE AFB

DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

Exhibit 11

NAME: Donald O. Weckhorst, CHSgt, USAF, Ret.

ORGANIZATION/AGENCY: \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE CHECK TYPE OF ORGANIZATION:

FEDERAL AGENCY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE AGENCY: \_\_\_\_\_ LOCAL GROUP: \_\_\_\_\_ INDIVIDUAL: XXXX

MAILING ADDRESS: 10 Lane Drive, Paxton, IL 60957

TELEPHONE NUMBER: 217 -- 379-3253

CHECK HERE IF YOU WISH TO SPEAK TODAY: NO - See statement below

SUBJECT: The Decision Process - to close Chanute

CHECK HERE IF YOU WOULD LIKE A COPY OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT: XXXXXXXXXX

YOU MAY ALSO USE THIS SHEET TO SUBMIT A WRITTEN COMMENT IN THE SPACE PROVIDED BELOW. YOU MAY TURN YOUR COMMENT IN AT THE CLOSE OF THE MEETING OR SEND IT TO THE ADDRESS AT THE BOTTOM OF THIS SHEET. WRITTEN COMMENTS MAY ALSO BE SUBMITTED IN A LETTER ON OTHER FORMAT.

The Air Force did not practice what it preaches. Each year the USAF spends mega-bucks on Professional Military Education (PME) for senior airmen through the senior officer ranks. I taught ~~the Tactical Air Command NCO Academy for 3-years. One of the primary subjects taught at all PME levels is PROBLEM SOLVING. The steps are well defined and every professional manager knows them. Documents obtained through the Freedom of Information Act prove beyond any doubt that Commission members did not 'gather all the facts' (Step #2 of the Problem Solving Process). They (Commission Members) accepted data provided by the Air Force without a single member visiting Chanute. As a 30-yr AF Retiree, I find it very difficult to respect the integrity of our most senior Air Force officers that provided 'outdated' or 'old data' to the Commission. ---- I challenge the Air Force, specifically ATC, to make public the visitation of high level government officials and senior officers to Chanute and Lowry Air Force Bases. They should be identical. Surely the dramatic increase of visitors at Lowry when the Broncos are in town, the ski slopes are open or big game season is open, has to be merely coincidental. I repeat. THE AIR FORCE DOES NOT PRACTICE WHAT IT PREACHES!~~

MAIL TO: MS CATHERINE HITCHINS  
14) ATC/UELV  
MANUELPH AFB TX 78150-3001

**Exhibit 10**

54. Comment noted.

**Exhibit 11**

55. Comment noted.

# Exhibit 12

## COMMENT SHEET

CHANUTE AFB

## DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

NAME: Cheri Preston  
 ORGANIZATION/AGENCY: WRTL/WZAF  
 PLEASE CHECK TYPE OF ORGANIZATION:  
 FEDERAL AGENCY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE AGENCY: \_\_\_\_\_ LOCAL GROUP: ☒ INDIVIDUAL: \_\_\_\_\_  
 MAILING ADDRESS: Box 115, Randolph, IL 61846  
 TELEPHONE NUMBER: 217-843-1460  
 CHECK HERE IF YOU WISH TO SPEAK TODAY: \_\_\_\_\_  
 SUBJECT: \_\_\_\_\_

CHECK HERE IF YOU WOULD LIKE A COPY OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT: \_\_\_\_\_  
 YOU MAY ALSO USE THIS SHEET TO SUBMIT A WRITTEN COMMENT IN THE SPACE PROVIDED BELOW. YOU MAY TURN YOUR COMMENT IN AT THE CLOSE OF THE MEETING OR SEND IT TO THE ADDRESS AT THE BOTTOM OF THIS SHEET. WRITTEN COMMENTS MAY ALSO BE SUBMITTED IN A LETTER OR OTHER FORMAT.

I would like a copy of the final  
environmental impact study

MAIL TO: MS CATHERINE HITCHINS  
 HQ ATC/DEEV  
 RANDOLPH AFB TX 78150-5001

# Exhibit 13



## United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECT REVIEW  
 230 S. DEARBORN, SUITE 3422  
 CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60604



ER-89/897

December 8, 1989

Ms. Catherine Hitchins  
 HQ ATC/DEEV  
 Randolph Air Force Base, Texas 78150-5001

Dear Ms. Hitchins:

The Department of the Interior has reviewed the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Closure of Chanute Air Force Base, Champaign County, Illinois. Based on our technical expertise and jurisdiction by law, we have no comments on the draft statement.

The opportunity to review this document is appreciated.

Sincerely,

*Sheila M. Huff*

Sheila Minor Huff  
 Regional Environmental Officer

**Exhibit 12**

56. Comment noted.

**Exhibit 13**

57. Comment noted.

## COMMENT SHEET

CHANUTE AFB

## DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

NAME: John A. Reale  
 ORGANIZATION/AGENCY: VILLAGE OF RANTOUL WATER & WASTEWATER DEPT.  
 PLEASE CHECK TYPE OF ORGANIZATION:  
 FEDERAL AGENCY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE AGENCY: \_\_\_\_\_ LOCAL GROUP: ☒ INDIVIDUAL: ☒  
 MAILING ADDRESS: 11625 CAROLINA DR. RANTOUL IL 61866  
 TELEPHONE NUMBER: 217-897-1280  
 CHECK HERE IF YOU WISH TO SPEAK TODAY: \_\_\_\_\_  
 SUBJECT: \_\_\_\_\_

CHECK HERE IF YOU WOULD LIKE A COPY OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT: ☒

YOU MAY ALSO USE THIS SHEET TO SUBMIT A WRITTEN COMMENT IN THE SPACE PROVIDED BELOW. YOU MAY TURN YOUR COMMENT IN AT THE CLOSE OF THE MEETING OR SEND IT TO THE ADDRESS AT THE BOTTOM OF THIS SHEET. WRITTEN COMMENTS MAY ALSO BE SUBMITTED IN A LETTER OR OTHER FORMAT.

I AM REQUESTING THE FINAL COPY OF THE E.I.S.  
I AM ALSO REQUESTING COPIES OF REPORTS  
MENTIONED IN THE E.I.S., SUCH AS,  
PCR'S, RADON, ARSENIC, UNDERGROUND  
STORAGE TANKS, ETC.

MAIL TO: MS CATHERINE HITCHINS  
 HQ ATC/DEEV  
 RANDOLPH AFB TX 78150-5001

## COMMENT SHEET

CHANUTE AFB

## DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

NAME: Kathy B. Podagrosi  
 ORGANIZATION/AGENCY: Mayer, Rantoul  
 PLEASE CHECK TYPE OF ORGANIZATION:  
 FEDERAL AGENCY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE AGENCY: \_\_\_\_\_ LOCAL GROUP: \_\_\_\_\_ INDIVIDUAL: \_\_\_\_\_  
 MAILING ADDRESS: 333 S. Tanner  
 TELEPHONE NUMBER: Rantoul IL 61866  
 CHECK HERE IF YOU WISH TO SPEAK TODAY: \_\_\_\_\_  
 SUBJECT: \_\_\_\_\_

CHECK HERE IF YOU WOULD LIKE A COPY OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT: \_\_\_\_\_

YOU MAY ALSO USE THIS SHEET TO SUBMIT A WRITTEN COMMENT IN THE SPACE PROVIDED BELOW. YOU MAY TURN YOUR COMMENT IN AT THE CLOSE OF THE MEETING OR SEND IT TO THE ADDRESS AT THE BOTTOM OF THIS SHEET. WRITTEN COMMENTS MAY ALSO BE SUBMITTED IN A LETTER OR OTHER FORMAT.

The Village of Rantoul would like  
20 extra copies of the final  
EIS

MAIL TO: MS CATHERINE HITCHINS  
 HQ ATC/DEEV  
 RANDOLPH AFB TX 78150-5001

**Exhibit 14**

58. Comment noted. Reports will be provided to Mr. Reale.

**Exhibit 15**

59. Comment noted.

# Exhibit 16

## COMMENT SHEET CHANUTE AFB DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

NAME: FRANK C. ELLIOT  
ORGANIZATION/AGENCY: \_\_\_\_\_  
PLEASE CHECK TYPE OF ORGANIZATION:  
FEDERAL AGENCY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE AGENCY: \_\_\_\_\_ LOCAL GROUP: \_\_\_\_\_ INDIVIDUAL: ☒  
MAILING ADDRESS: 317 WOODMAN DR, PANTHER, IL 61866  
TELEPHONE NUMBER: (217) 893-1714  
CHECK HERE IF YOU WISH TO SPEAK TODAY: \_\_\_\_\_  
SUBJECT: \_\_\_\_\_

CHECK HERE IF YOU WOULD LIKE A COPY OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT: \_\_\_\_\_  
YOU MAY ALSO USE THIS SHEET TO SUBMIT A WRITTEN COMMENT IN THE SPACE PROVIDED BELOW. YOU MAY TURN YOUR COMMENT IN AT THE CLOSE OF THE MEETING OR SEND IT TO THE ADDRESS AT THE BOTTOM OF THIS SHEET. WRITTEN COMMENTS MAY ALSO BE SUBMITTED IN A LETTER OR OTHER FORMAT.

I AM INTERESTED AT THE REPORTS THE AIR FORCE PUT OUT  
TO CLIM (CHANUTE AFB) - HAD A LONGER AIR MAIL BOX AND VISITED  
A NUMBER OF TIMES. I REALLY BELIEVE SOME OF THE COMMENTS SHOULD HAVE  
BEEN CLOSED WITH COMMENTS - ONE IN THE MIDDLE OF A MEETING AND  
WITH ORIGINAL PERSONS WANTS (20 UNIT)

MAIL TO: MS CATHERINE HITCHINS  
HQ ATC/DEEV  
RANDOLPH AFB TX 78150-3001

## COMMENT SHEET CHANUTE AFB DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

# Exhibit 17

NAME: FRANK C. ELLIOT, JR  
ORGANIZATION/AGENCY: GENERAL DEVELOPMENT  
PLEASE CHECK TYPE OF ORGANIZATION:  
FEDERAL AGENCY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE AGENCY: \_\_\_\_\_ LOCAL GROUP: ☒ INDIVIDUAL: \_\_\_\_\_  
MAILING ADDRESS: 333 S. TOWNE ST, P.O. BOX 38, PANTHER, IL 61  
TELEPHONE NUMBER: (217) 893-1111  
CHECK HERE IF YOU WISH TO SPEAK TODAY: \_\_\_\_\_  
SUBJECT: \_\_\_\_\_

CHECK HERE IF YOU WOULD LIKE A COPY OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT: \_\_\_\_\_  
YOU MAY ALSO USE THIS SHEET TO SUBMIT A WRITTEN COMMENT IN THE SPACE PROVIDED BELOW. YOU MAY TURN YOUR COMMENT IN AT THE CLOSE OF THE MEETING OR SEND IT TO THE ADDRESS AT THE BOTTOM OF THIS SHEET. WRITTEN COMMENTS MAY ALSO BE SUBMITTED IN A LETTER OR OTHER FORMAT.

I DID SAY - I AM CURRENTLY CONCERNED ABOUT THE AIR  
FORCE - FUND'S AIRCRAFT ACC. ON A "HARD" CASE FILE - BASIS -  
THEY HAVE THE AIR FORCE CASE FILED WITH CHANUTE - HAD A  
MEETING ATTENTION? (GIVEN) SOME CASES ARE NOT LET THE  
MATTER TO THE AIR FORCE - THE AIR FORCE FILE (HARD) A  
100 FILE CASES (100) HAD THE AIR FORCE, HAD THE AIR FORCE, HAD THE AIR FORCE  
AND THE AIR FORCE

MAIL TO: MS CATHERINE HITCHINS  
HQ ATC/DEEV  
RANDOLPH AFB TX 78150-3001

**Exhibit 16**

60. Comment noted.

**Exhibit 17**

61. Chanute AFB will receive the same consideration for funding as an active installation, based on a "worst first" analysis.



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Soil  
Conservation  
Service

Springer Federal Building  
301 North Randolph Street  
Champaign, Illinois 61820

REV 12/4

CAMB Exhibit 18

November 28, 1989

Ms. Catherine Mitchins  
HQ ATC/DEEV  
Bldg. 661, Room 117  
Randolph AFB, Texas 78150-5001

Dear Ms. Mitchins:

We have reviewed the draft environmental impact statement on the closure of Chanute Air Force Base and have the following comments.

1. Base closure and resulting future zoning and ownership may encourage conversion of prime farmland on the base.
2. Water quality in the future may be affected by:
  - a. abandoned underground storage tanks (if not properly disposed)
  - b. abandoned wells (unless properly sealed)
  - c. leachate from abandoned solid waste disposal areas.

Sincerely,

  
JOHN J. ECKES  
State Conservationist

cc:  
Rudy Rice, President, AISHCD, DuQuoin, IL  
Steve Chard, IDOA, Springfield, IL  
Larry Ruhl, Soil Resources Committee, Fairfield, IL 62837  
James B. Newman, Director, Ecological Sciences Division, SCS, Washington, D.C.  
J. Martin, AC, A-2

RLM:bn



Exhibit 19

COMMENT SHEET

CHANUTE AFB

DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

NAME: EDWARD J. PERINO  
ORGANIZATION/AGENCY: \_\_\_\_\_  
PLEASE CHECK TYPE OF ORGANIZATION:  
FEDERAL AGENCY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE AGENCY: \_\_\_\_\_ LOCAL GROUP: \_\_\_\_\_ INDIVIDUAL: ☒  
MAILING ADDRESS: 517 FORD PARK DRIVE, FARMER, IL, 614  
TELEPHONE NUMBER: 815-864-13  
CHECK HERE IF YOU WISH TO SPEAK TODAY: \_\_\_\_\_  
SUBJECT: \_\_\_\_\_

CHECK HERE IF YOU WOULD LIKE A COPY OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT, ☒

YOU MAY ALSO USE THIS SHEET TO SUBMIT A WRITTEN COMMENT IN THE SPACE PROVIDED BELOW. YOU MAY TURN YOUR COMMENT IN AT THE CLOSE OF THE MEETING OR SEND IT TO THE ADDRESS AT THE BOTTOM OF THIS SHEET. WRITTEN COMMENTS MAY ALSO BE SUBMITTED IN A LETTER OR OTHER FORMAT.

MORE SPECIFIC INFORMATION IS NEEDED ON  
WHERE THE FUNDS ARE COMING FROM AND HOW  
LONG THE FUNDING WILL LAST AFTER CHANUTE  
IS CLOSED. ALSO THE PEOPLE ISSUE MUST  
BE ADDRESSED A GREAT DEAL MORE IN THIS  
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

MAIL TO: MS CATHERINE MITCHINS  
HQ ATC/DEEV  
RANDOLPH AFB TX 78150-5001

**Exhibit 18**

62. Comment noted.

**Exhibit 19**

63. Comment noted. See response 1, 19, 12, 15, 53.

COMMENT SHEET

CHANUTE AFB

DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

Exhibit 20

NAME: Warren Manley

ORGANIZATION/AGENCY: \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE CHECK TYPE OF ORGANIZATION:

FEDERAL AGENCY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE AGENCY: \_\_\_\_\_ LOCAL GROUP: \_\_\_\_\_ INDIVIDUAL ☒

MAILING ADDRESS: Box 56 Rantow, Ill

TELEPHONE NUMBER: 8934193

CHECK HERE IF YOU WISH TO SPEAK TODAY: Yes

SUBJECT: leho in the air force supplied the of Cam  
incorrect data on Chanute to the

CHECK HERE IF YOU WOULD LIKE A COPY OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT: \_\_\_\_\_

YOU MAY ALSO USE THIS SHEET TO SUBMIT A WRITTEN COMMENT IN THE SPACE PROVIDED BELOW. YOU MAY TURN YOUR COMMENT IN AT THE CLOSE OF THE MEETING OR SEND IT TO THE ADDRESS AT THE BOTTOM OF THIS SHEET. WRITTEN COMMENTS MAY ALSO BE SUBMITTED IN A LETTER OR OTHER FORMAT.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

MAIL TO: MS CATHERINE HITCHINS  
HQ ATC/DEEV  
RANDOLPH AFB TX 78150-5001

## Exhibit 20

64. The Base Closure Commission proceedings are public information. The Air Force is required by law to implement the Secretary of Defense's decision to close Chanute in a manner that minimizes impacts to the environment.

1214 Magnolia

Randolph, Ill 61116

Nov 1, 1989

Mr. Catherine Kitchener

108 Q.T.C. / D.E.F.V

Oldy 661, Room 117

Randolph Q.T.C., TX 79150-5001

After reading the Draft  
Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)  
for the Closure of Church Q.T.C., Ill.,  
I have some concerns (questions).  
You put out the statement  
that must be read and all  
the environmental impacts etc. and  
you feel to say how much there  
is going to cost.  
Nothing says, like, in the  
EIS, but you say the President of  
the U.S. said, we cannot  
that you can close Church Q.T.C.  
and that there cannot be other  
leaves that could have to be read

Atch 4

2

This very same business that  
we already in place and find for  
and can manage that can anyone  
with any more of all say that  
it's not just 170,000,000 million  
dollars in Church Q.T.C. but 10  
years to spread the installation  
and then all of a sudden say, oh  
we don't need this, we can't  
do all that and don't have  
the proper resources facilities etc.  
which is a bunch of gibberish that  
is

The Commission that Church  
the 86 have should be taken before  
Congress and subject to the same  
Congressional questioning the C.I.L.  
North can subject to for deposit &  
Congress. The Commission has to  
compare.

Walter D. Smith

**Exhibit 21**

65. Same response as 52.



## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH &amp; HUMAN SERVICES

## Exhibit 22

Public Health Service

Centers for Disease Control  
Atlanta GA 30333

December 8, 1989

Ms. Catherine Hitchins  
HQ ATC/DEEV  
Bldg 661, Room 117  
Randolph AFB, Texas 78150-5001

Dear Ms. Hitchins:

We have completed our review of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the Closure of Chanute Air Force Base, Illinois. We are responding on behalf of the U.S. Public Health Service. Technical assistance for this review was provided by Special Programs Group staff, Center for Environmental Health and Injury Control.

Our review of the information provided did not reveal significant adverse public health impacts due to the closure of this Base. We noted: 1) that no construction or demolition activities are planned as part of closure; 2) that the examination of any alternative actions is precluded by PL 100-526; 3) that the Installation Restoration Program is independent of closure and will continue as needed after the military mission has been terminated; 4) that alternatives for future use of Chanute AFB are not relevant to this DEIS; and 5) that several activities, such as a underground storage tank plan and a hazardous waste storage facility closure plan, will require compliance with Federal, State and local environmental regulators.

We also note that several issues related to public health, including PCB's, asbestos, and radon, await further study. These issues must receive appropriate attention in planning for closure and/or future use of these facilities.

Thank you for the opportunity to review and comment on this DEIS. Please insure that we are included on your mailing list to receive a copy of the final document, and future DEIS's which may indicate potential public health impact and are developed under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

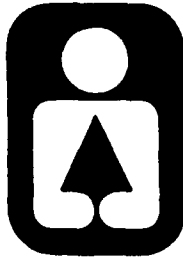
Sincerely yours,

Kenneth W. Holt, M.S.E.H.  
Environmental Health Scientist  
Center for Environmental Health  
and Injury Control

**Exhibit 22**

66. Comment noted.

Illinois



Department of Conservation

life and land together

LINCOLN TOWER PLAZA • 524 SOUTH SECOND STREET • SPRINGFIELD 62701-1787  
CHICAGO OFFICE • ROOM 4-300 • 100 WEST RANDOLPH 60601  
MARK FRECH, DIRECTOR - KATHY SELCKE, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

October 17, 1989

Mr. Will Ballard  
Environmental Planner  
Woolpert  
409 E. Monument Ave.  
Dayton, Ohio 45402-1226

Dear Mr. Ballard:

Thank you for your September 18, 1989 letter concerning preparation of an environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for closure of and withdrawal of personnel from Chanute Air Force Base, Rantoul, Illinois. The Department would be pleased to participate in the EIS process as a coordinating agency.

We understand the EIS currently under preparation will only discuss the closure and personnel withdrawal impacts of the base closing, while a future EIS will discuss the disposition and re-use of the lease for non-military purposes.

We also understand that, until such time as the lease ownership is transferred from the military, the Air Force is committed to continued maintenance of base structures to prevent deterioration. Under this scenario we assume that current management of base farmlands, recreation areas, etc. will not change dramatically, though maintenance may not be as intense as it was when the base was actively in use.

Under the above scenario we do not expect any adverse, long term impacts to the areas fish, wildlife and natural heritage resources.

To assist you in EIS preparation you have already been sent information from the Natural Heritage Database on significant natural features that occur on or in proximity to Chanute. Also attached for your information is a listing of the Fish and Wildlife species known to occur in Champaign County. This information is from the Illinois Fish and Wildlife Information System (IFWIS).

RECEIVED

OCT 20 1989

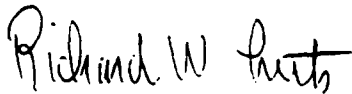
**Exhibit 23**

I am also enclosing information from the Department's 1969 Champaign County Water Resources Report on the Chanute Air Force Base Ponds which you may find of interest.

Finally, I am enclosing information concerning the Department's involvement in the conservation and development of fish and wildlife resources at Chanute. This includes a copy of the cooperative agreement between the Department and Chanute, information on our involvement in fisheries management on the 17 acre lake constructed in 1985 and a memo and letter which details some possible wildlife habitat development/improvements at Chanute.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I hope you find the attached information useful in your EIS preparation. Give me a call if you have further questions or needs (217/782-3715).

Sincerely,



Richard W. Lutz, Supervisor  
Impact Analysis Section  
Division of Planning

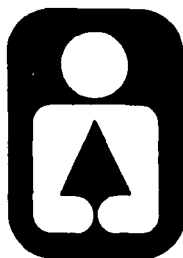
RWL:mip

Attachments: 5

**Exhibit 23**

67. Comments incorporated into the document.

Illinois



Department of Conservation

life and land together

LINCOLN TOWER PLAZA • 524 SOUTH SECOND STREET • SPRINGFIELD 62701-1787

CHICAGO OFFICE • ROOM 4-300 • 100 WEST RANDOLPH 60601

MARK FRECH, DIRECTOR - KATHY SELCKE, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

September 13, 1989

Mr. Will Ballard  
Woolpert Consultants  
409 E. Monument Ave.  
Dayton, OH 45402-1226

Dear Mr. Ballard:

Per your request, I have searched our data files for significant features on or near the Chanute Air Force Base. No significant natural features were found.

Please note that although no natural features were found by the Illinois Natural Heritage Database, there is always the possibility that significant features unknown to the Database may exist at the site. One state endangered species that could possibly be found at the airport is the upland sandpiper (Bartramia longicauda). This species is commonly associated with grassy areas around airports.

This letter does not constitute consultation as required by Executive Order No. 7 and/or the Illinois Endangered Species Protection Act. Please contact the Department of Conservation's Division of Planning (ATTN: Dick Lutz) to initiate the required consultation.

I cannot charge you for the search of our database, but I would like to urge your support of the Illinois Natural Heritage Database by contributing to the Illinois Nongame Wildlife Conservation Fund. I have enclosed a sheet showing the expenses in searching the database.

If I can be of further assistance, please feel free to call me at (217) 785-8774.

Sincerely,

John E. Buhnerkempe  
Data Coordinator  
Division of Natural Heritage

cc: Carl Becker  
Bob Szafoni  
Dick Lutz

RECEIVED

SEP 19 1989

WOOLPERT CONSULTANTS

**Exhibit 24**

68. Comments incorporated into the document.



**Illinois Historic  
Preservation Agency**

Old State Capitol • Springfield, Illinois 62701 • (217) 782-4836

217/785-4512

Champaign County  
Rantoul

Chanute AFB Closure  
IHPA Log #01092889

Mr. Will Ballard  
Environmental Planner  
Woolpert Consultants  
409 East Monument Avenue  
Dayton, Ohio 45402-1226

Dear Mr. Ballard:

Thank you for your letter informing us that your firm will be preparing an Environmental Impact Statement for the closure of Chanute Air Force Base.

A Phase I archaeological survey was completed by our office in 1987 of the entire base property. A single isolated find was located. The results of this survey indicate that no significant archaeological properties are located within the base property.

We have also discussed historic properties on the base with Air Force personnel. It is our understanding that they contracted with a firm to perform an assessment of buildings on the base that may meet National Register of Historic Places criteria. If this has not been done, it should be. Several buildings, including the hangers and Building 3, probably meet National Register standards for eligibility.

We have also had contact with the Mayor of Rantoul who is investigating the possibility of nominating the hanger buildings to the National Register of Historic Places. The village of Rantoul thinks that the added tax advantages associated with historic properties would increase the marketability of the structures.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. If we can be of assistance to you during preparation of the Environmental Impact Statement please contact our office at 217/785-4512.

Sincerely,

*Anne M. Haaker*

Anne M. Haaker  
Coordinator, Resource  
Protection Services

**RECEIVED**

**OCT 05 1989**

AMH:kh

WOOLPERT CONSULTA'

**Exhibit 25**

69. Comments incorporated into the document.



## United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE  
ROCK ISLAND FIELD OFFICE (ES)  
1830 Second Avenue, Second Floor  
Rock Island, Illinois 61201

IN REPLY REFER TO:  
COM: 309/793-5800  
FTS: 386-5800

October 10, 1989

Will Ballard  
Woolpert Consultants  
409 East Monument Avenue  
Dayton, Ohio 45402-1226

Dear Mr. Ballard:

This is in response to your letter regarding the closing of Chanute Air Force, Rantoul, Illinois. There are no areas in the study area of concern to our agency and we therefore have no comment on the proposal to close the base.

This letter provides comment under the authority of and in accordance with provisions of the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (48 Stat. 401, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 661 et seq.); the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended; and the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended.

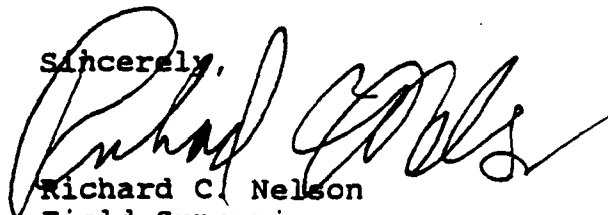
RECEIVED

OCT 16 1989

GB:hw

WOOLPERT CONSULTANTS

Sincerely,



Richard C. Nelson  
Field Supervisor

**Exhibit 26**

70. Comment noted.



State of Illinois

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Division of Natural Resources

State Fairgrounds, P.O. Box 19281, Springfield, IL 62794-9281, 217/782-6297

Bureau of Farmland Protection

Bureau of Soil Conservation

November 8, 1989

Mr. Will Ballard  
 Environmental Planner  
 Woolpert Consultants  
 409 East Monument Avenue  
 Dayton, Ohio 45402-1226

Dear Mr. Ballard:

Thank you for recently notifying the Illinois Department of Agriculture (IDOA) of the forthcoming Environmental Impact Statement which pertains to the slated closure of Chanute Air Force Base at Rantoul, Illinois. Please be advised that the IDOA wishes to be officially recognized as a cooperating agency regarding this matter.

In conjunction with the closure of the base, the potential certainly exists for the agricultural community to sustain detrimental impacts. The following conveys the perceived agricultural impacts that would be affiliated with an action of this nature.

. Agricultural Resources

According to your recent correspondence, approximately 311 acres on the base are devoted to intensive agricultural use. Undoubtedly, termination of the base would make said land more susceptible to non-agricultural development scenarios. Development of this farmland may also act as a catalyst for urban related development initiatives to occur on agricultural land to the south and the east of the existing base. Considering the presence of the prime farmland soils within the confines of the base and in the areas adjacent thereto, it would be preferable for the integrity of these agricultural resources to be protected for continued agricultural pursuits.

. Impacts To Agricultural Producers

We presume the closure of the base would result in adverse economic impacts for the farmer(s) that rents agricultural land from the U.S. Air Force. There is a strong likelihood that the farmland would no longer be available for agricultural use. The extent of these impacts would be contingent upon the overall size of the farmer's operation. If a large quantity of land is farmed elsewhere, the economic impacts may not be severe. Conversely, if the farmland on the base constitutes the majority of the farming operation, the economic effects would clearly be significant.

RECEIVED

NOV 10 1989

Mr. Ballard  
Page 2  
November 8, 1989

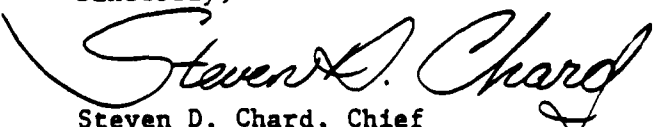
. Impacts To Subsurface Drainage Systems

It is highly probable that subsurface tile drainage systems serve the farmland on the base and it is possible these tile lines extend into the agricultural land to the south and east of the base. Proper drainage is essential for a farming operation to be profitable. As previously mentioned, the abandonment of the base could result in the conversion of farmland that is currently utilized for farming purposes. Development of the farmland on the base may sever or crush tile lines which also accommodate the farmland to the south and east. If this is the case, subsurface drainage would be disrupted and water from rainfall events would remain on the surface for lengthy periods of time. This is an undesirable condition for land that is intensively row cropped.

The aforementioned information represents the respective agricultural impact issues which should be properly addressed within the upcoming Environmental Impact Statement. Please direct a copy of the document to this office for our examination.

If you have any questions regarding the remarks expressed herein, do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,



Steven D. Chard, Chief  
Bureau of Farmland Protection

SDC:mdg

cc: Larry Aldag, IDOA

**Exhibit 27**

71. Same response as 1.



Illinois Environmental Protection Agency · P.O. Box 19276, Springfield, IL 62794-9276

---

217/785-5735

Chanute Air Force Base--EIS for Closure of Base

November 14, 1989

Mr. Will Ballard  
Woolpert Consultants  
409 East Monument Avenue  
Dayton, Ohio 45402-1226

Dear Mr. Ballard:

In response to your request of September 18, 1989, the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency will participate in the preparation of the environmental impact statement for the closure of Chanute Air Force Base, as a cooperating agency subject to resource constraints. The role of the Agency will be limited to that of review and comment and providing data and information which the Agency possesses.

We note the process of providing data and discussion has already commenced as outline in your letter. We also note that the scoping meetings for the preparation of the EIS have already taken place.

If you have any questions or comments, please contact Tom McSwiggin at 217-782-0610.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "R. Kanerva", written over a horizontal line.

Roger A. Kanerva  
Manager  
Environmental Programs

RAK:TGM:mjm

cc: Tom McSwiggin

RECEIVED

NOV 16 1989

WOOLPERT CONSULTANTS

**Exhibit 28**

72. Comment noted.

Comments taken from transcripts from the public hearing on the draft EIS. The meeting was held at the Rantoul Township High School on November 11, 1989.

73. However, I do have a problem with attempts to completely separate, with the exception of the Regional Waste Water Treatment Plan environmental and socio-economic impacts an artificial, if not an impossible division.

Same response as 1.

74. What prospective purchaser, with today's environmental laws and concerns, will be seriously interested in property that is less than totally safe and clean? An if such a prospect is found, what happens to the market value of a property less than clean?

It is in the best interest of the Air Force to have quick and appropriate cleanup of any contaminated sites. All IRP sites will be monitored and remediation will occur as necessary. These sites will be precluded from development until any health hazards are eliminated. The Air Force intends to dispose of the property at fair market value, so a maintenance program will be instituted to prevent deterioration of assets.

75. And it goes on with four options, the first of which is long-term monitoring of the materials conditions. We find this unacceptable. We cannot operate on a long term in this situation. Secondly is enclosure within solid structures, and third is encapsulation with sprayed-on coatings. What happens with interior walls that are enclosed, or when in doubt, they're encapsulated? The fourth one and the last one listed is the removal of the material which, in our view, is the only acceptable option.

Air Force policy is that there will not be a transfer of any property with asbestos that constitutes an immediate health hazard. If a decision is made to demolish any facility, all hazardous materials, including asbestos, will be removed in accordance with federal and state environmental regulations. Same as response 42. Same as response 42.

76. Under what conditions would it be impossible to remove the contaminated soil caused by leaking USTs?

Soil contamination at depth may be difficult to remove because the plume of contamination maybe very extensive. State and Federal EPA's have recovery systems to remove contaminants but not necessarily to zero. The Air Force will work very closely with the state and the EPA to contain the contamination to at least the point where there is not a health risk.

77. It then goes on to state that abandoned USTs--those no longer in service--are generally programmed, a term that Mike Little also brought up. You know, what is "generally," and why does it say "generally?" Why not "always?" You know, does "generally" mean 50 percent or over 50 percent, or 39 out of 77?

The correction has been made in the Draft EIS, page 3-20.

78. What is a minimal maintenance program, and what is this going to do for Chapman Court and for Rantoul?

The minimal maintenance program which will include the Chapman Courts area will be a preventive maintenance program. This program will be operated in a fashion that assets will be protected from losing their market value.

79. Or why only shallow monitoring wells at some of the landfill sites? Why not core samples from the landfill areas? Why are only the superficial soils forming the landfill caps being sampled? What about the soils around the sides and beneath these landfill areas?

Landfill coring will not as a rule be done. Tests and investigations are conducted to gather information so that informed decisions can be made. Coring is commonly done at three or five locations within a base to get a firsthand look at the geology of the general area. Taking a core from a landfill provides almost no helpful information and can be dangerous to the drilling crew due to such problems as release of methane gas. On the other hand, surface soil samples are appropriate at closed landfills to test the integrity of the landfill cap. Groundwater monitoring wells are installed on the perimeter and down gradient (in the direction of groundwater flow) of the landfill. Shallow wells are installed into the uppermost aquifer as a first step because any contaminant leakage would reach the uppermost aquifer first. If contaminants are found, deeper wells into the next aquifer layer may be necessary.

80. What are the development limitations over the landfill sites?

Eventually all IRP sites will be made available for reuse. However, there will be restrictions due to engineering limitations, such as not constructing a building on a capped landfill. When all necessary studies and remedial actions are complete at IRP sites, those lands will be released for disposal (sale or other type of property transfer). Restrictions on the type of development will be placed on some parcels. Lands containing closed landfills are not appropriate for structures of appreciable size. Closed landfills are most suitable for recreational areas, i.e., parks, golf courses, wilderness areas, etc. Any development over a closed landfill which would disturb or remove the cap (cover material) poses many problems, both engineering and environmental. Restrictions against such development that are needed to protect human health and the environment will convey with the property.

81. What about the water supply, the holding tanks, the maintenance--which you've already touched upon--and the steam plant--and of course, the pending problems with the waste water system.

The water supply, holding tanks, and steam plant will be included in the base maintenance program which will prevent deterioration of assets. The waste water system will be impacted by the eventual reuse as well as the closure of the base, interim and long term objectives to be considered. The Air Force will participate in the reuse EIS and process to look at and work with the Village of Rantoul in minimizing the impacts to the waste water treatment plant.

82. And on the next page, under "Groundwater Resources" it states, "The closure will also reduce future construction that would create more impervious space on the aquifer recharge area that the base partially occupies." Gentlemen, those statements can only valid if present land, buildings and so on retain a status quo. We're not willing to settle for that.

Comment noted

83. We need, expect, and even demand that all environmental concerns be addressed quickly and efficiently, that the cleanup be complete, and that the Village be directly informed and involved every step of the way.

Comment noted. The Village is invited to participate in the environmental programs.

84. I am Mel Webster. I'm the Director of the Retiree Activities Program, representing approximately 4,000 military retirees from all branches of the Armed Forces. I would like to spend one minute listing the environmental impact the military retiree will notice: No hospital, no dental care, no base exchange store, no commissary, no alterations shop, no barber shop, no beauty shop, no flower shop, no laundry/dry cleaning shop, no optical shop, no service station, no theaters, no SATO, no clubs, no arts and crafts center, no auto craft shop, no athletic complex, no bowling center, no child care center, no golf course, no package store, no skeet range, no swimming pools, no thrift shop, no youth center. I thank you.

Same response as 1.

85. What are they to do without the hospital? What are we to do if Chanute closes?

Same response as 1. Same response as 1.

86. Where are we going to get the money for the doctors, hospitals and medicine?

Same response as 1.

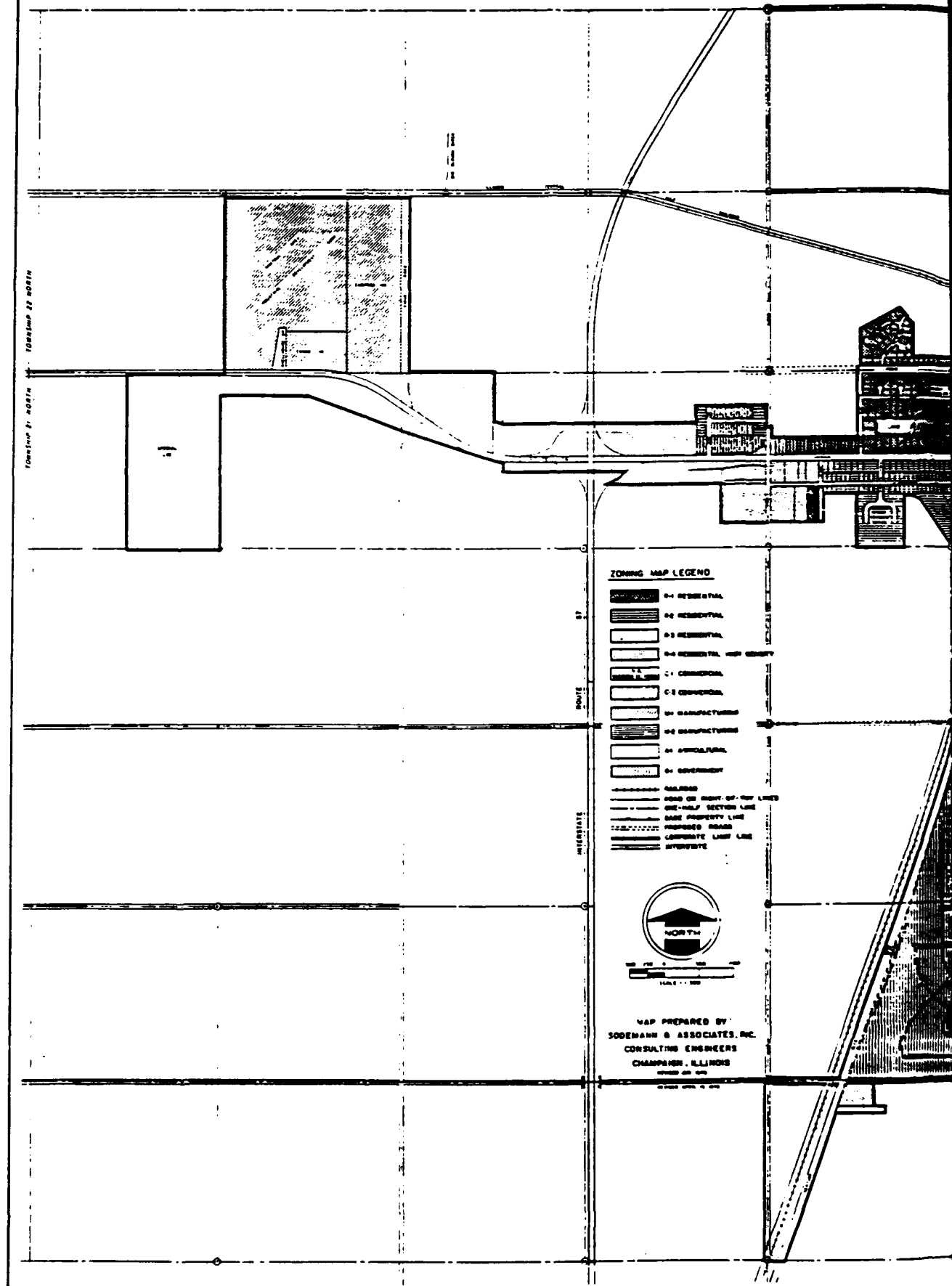
87. Closing Chanute and the potential of it is creating stress in this area.

Same response as 1.

88. I would like the second Economic Impact Statement to address itself to these types of people issues, so we can better be prepared to help the people in this area deal with this situation. I would also like the Air Force to respond, in terms of how you can help us deal with this situation and what kinds of impact we can expect, in terms of the social services and the human aspects of this situation.

Same response as 1.

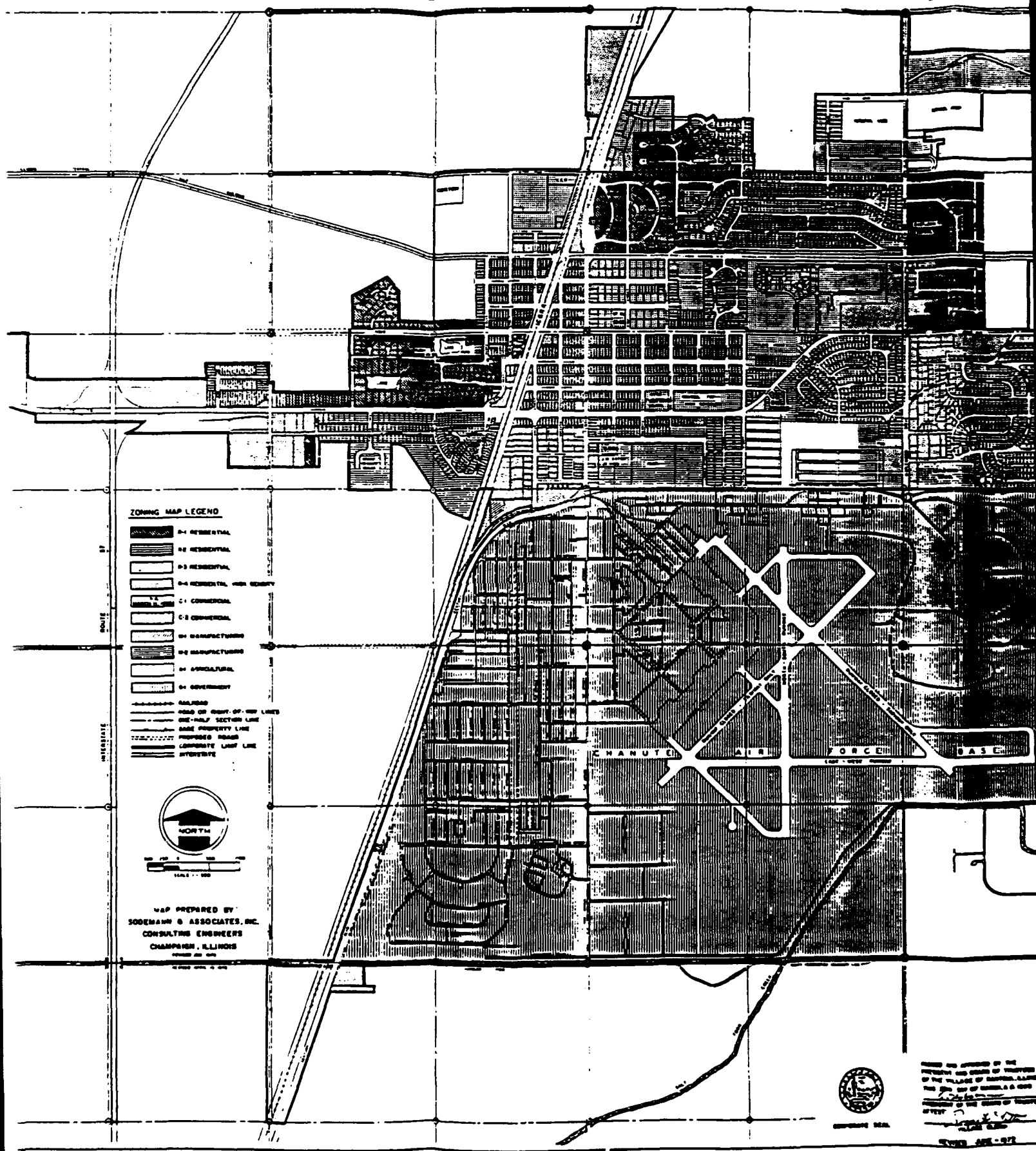
# VILLAGE OF RANTOUL, ILLINOIS -



①

②

AGE OF RANTOUL, ILLINOIS - "ZONING MAP - INCORPORATED AREA"

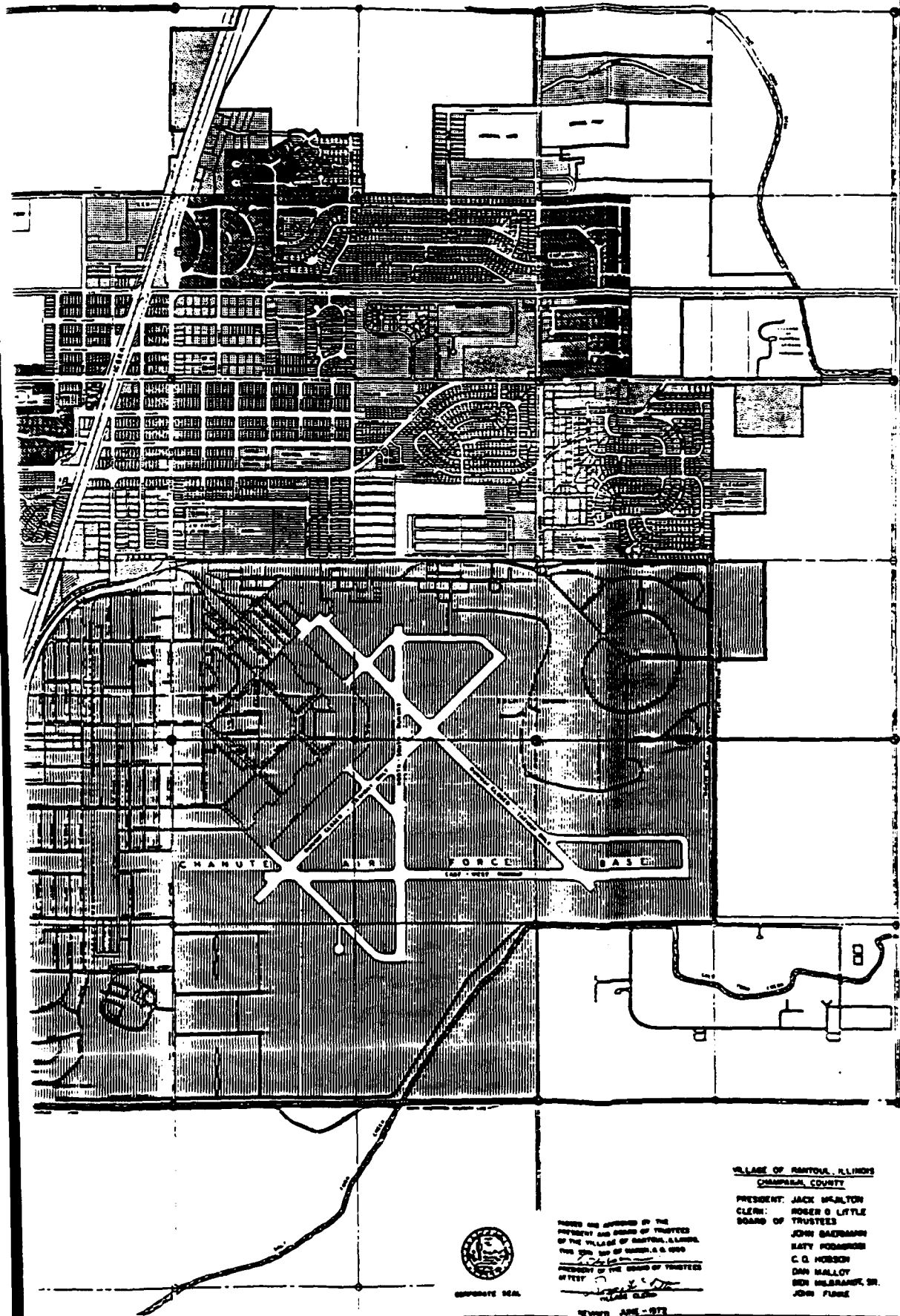


2

3

Figure 3.4

ZONING MAP - INCORPORATED AREA "



(3)